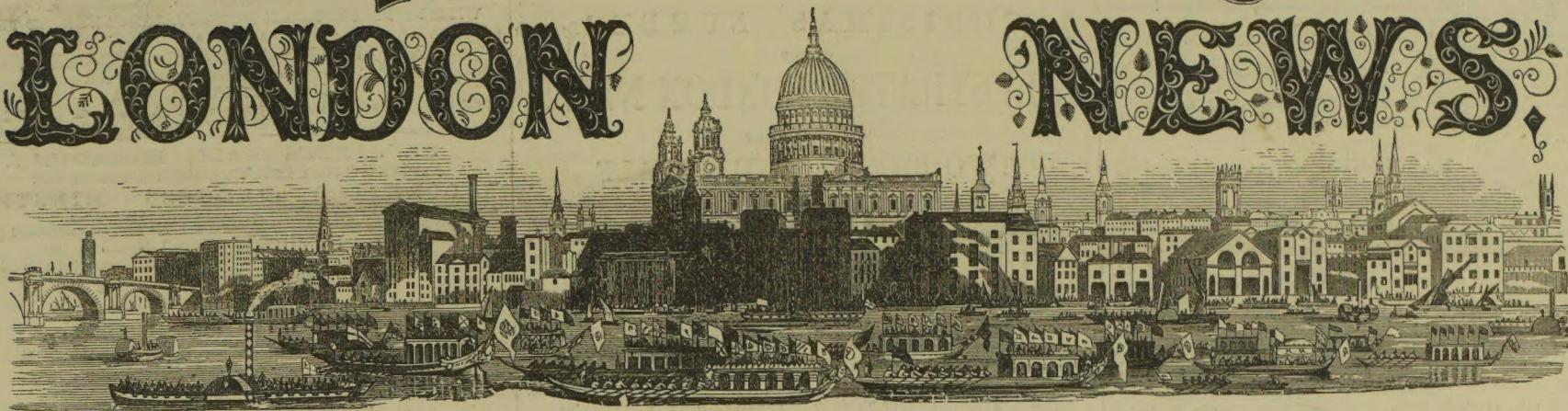


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

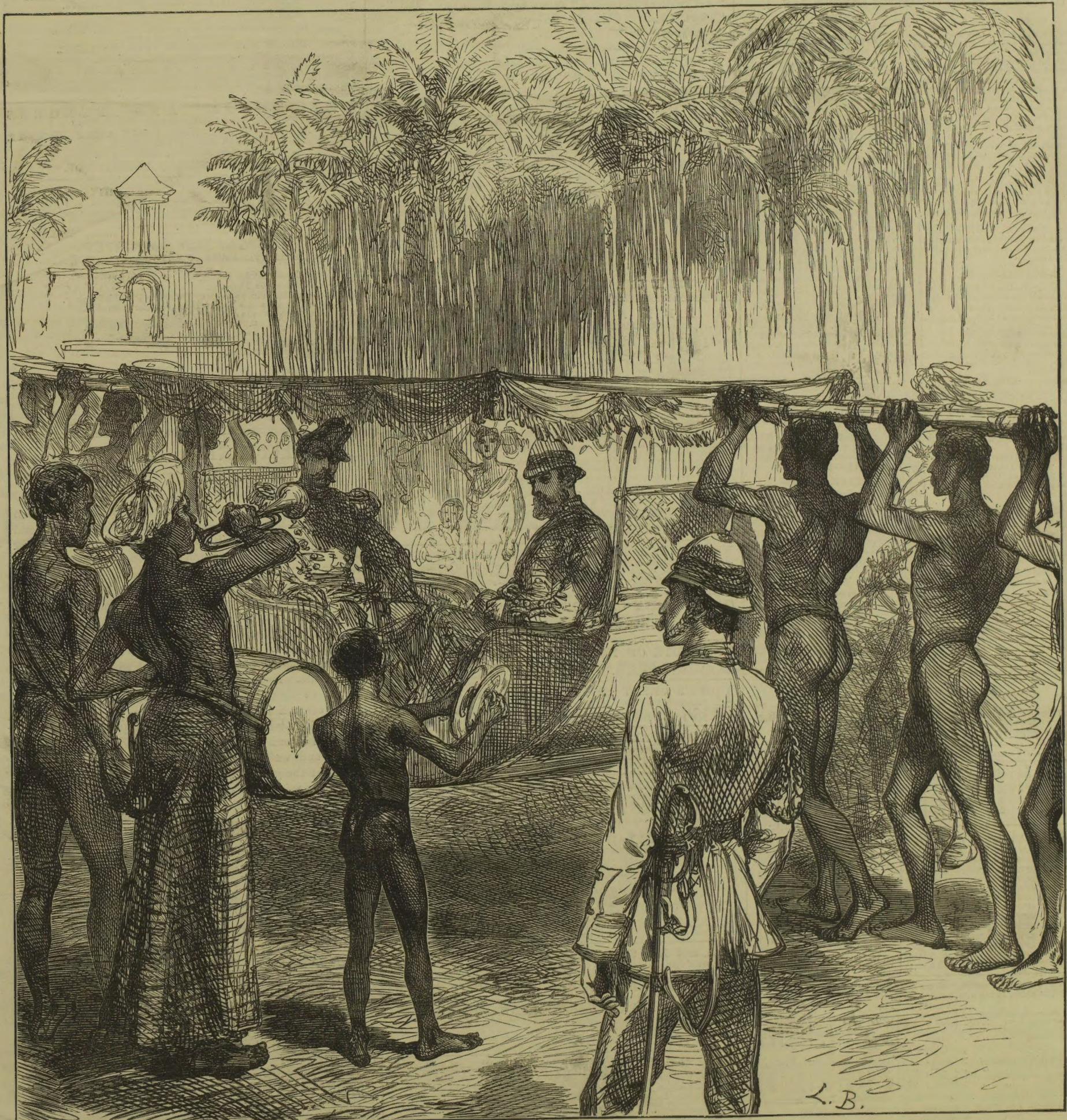


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SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1876.

WITH SIXPENCE.
TWO SUPPLEMENTS { By Post, 6d.



THE ROYAL VISIT TO INDIA: THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE GOVERNOR OF GOA ON THEIR WAY TO THE CATHEDRAL AT OLD GOA.
FROM A SKETCH BY AN OFFICER OF THE SERAPIS.

the grain harvest was immediately succeeded by a renewal of storms. October was never less October than in this year. And, to crown all, Arctic weather set in long before Christmas, and was followed by a season of muggy warmth which nobody could enjoy.

In some respects, there has been a correspondence between human affairs and the conditions of the atmosphere. There has been nothing consistent with what had gone before it. The outlook of mankind—not only in Europe, but elsewhere—has been such that little reliance could be placed upon it. Commercially, repeated promise of brighter things has been swept away by unexpected misfortunes. But the general gloom has never deepened into impenetrable darkness. Trade has held on its way, not altogether without profit, but through the midst of perpetually recurring drawbacks. It may be that the heedless extravagance of preceding years of prosperity overtook the general business of the country. But, be this as it may, it has been made more familiar with clouds than with sunshine; and the last thing that can be predicated of it is that it was brisk.

So, in the main, as to international politics. In the common parlance of diplomacy, it can hardly be said that peace has been broken. But, even in Europe, there has been more than one "scare;" and perhaps we owe the preservation of comparative quiet to the joint determination of the three Northern Emperors. The insurrections in Herzegovina and Bosnia, stimulated, perhaps, by the visit of the Emperor of Austria to Dalmatia, laid bare what is called the "Eastern Question," and furnished, it may be, the incidents which disclosed to the world the bankruptcy and moral worthlessness of the Turkish Empire in Europe. The purchase of the Khedive's shares in the Suez Canal by the Government of England has, happily, indicated the possibility of some solution of the Eastern Question which will not involve us in war. But, on the whole, there is an uncertainty of aspect in the politics of Europe; and the chief assurance of the people of its various States arises from their conviction that neither of the Powers is prepared to provoke or to face a general contest.

Fixing attention upon individual nations, one by one, it is impossible to ignore the seriousness of the features which their political affairs exhibit. Our neighbour, France, it is true, has succeeded in framing a political constitution. She has done so by a series of lucky accidents. She is looking forward, however, to a dissolution of her National Assembly and a general election, and no man can foretell what may be the issue. She has this comfort, that she has enjoyed a season of wonderful material prosperity, and that her financial condition is proved to be as progressive as it is sound. Of Spain one cannot say the same thing. She accepted her young King at the beginning of the year, but hitherto has failed to make his reign a success. The civil war continues. The Cuban insurrection is not suppressed, and although the relations of Spain to the United States are those of nominal amity, one cannot tell how soon the friendship may be destroyed. Germany, too, has on her hands a task involving no little uncertainty. Threatened in her unity by ecclesiastical disaffection, she has marched on from one severity to another, which, if they may be rationally defended, cannot fail to be deeply deplored. We will not mention Russia, with her Central-Asian perplexities and troubles; nor Italy, nor Austria, with their internal difficulties. But, looking back upon the past year, politics, at least so far as the Eastern hemisphere is concerned, have presented a gloomy rather than a grey sky, but one that has not yet broken into actual storm. They may, or they may not, be verging towards a disastrous crisis, but we can hardly say of them that hope has the ascendency over apprehension.

We must now confine our retrospect to the affairs of the British Empire. We can take only a bird's-eye view of them, merely glancing—and that almost without comment—at those topics the prominence of which has served to distinguish the year just expired. Of these the first place is due to the visit of the Prince of Wales to India, up to the present time so successfully carried out. Bombay, Ceylon, and Madras, and, last of all, Calcutta, have given a hearty welcome to his Royal Highness; and he has greeted and has been greeted by most of the native Princes and Rajahs whose political importance and influence goes for anything in India. Everywhere the Prince has earned the enthusiastic goodwill of those whom he has met. Perhaps the next topic which has attracted most public attention and absorbed most public interest, is the departure of the Arctic Expedition under Captain Nares. For the present, it would be too venturesome to anticipate what will be achieved by this exploratory attempt. All that we know is that the Polar season was unusually favourable for its progress, and that there are several good grounds for expecting its ultimate success. The visit of the Sultan of Zanzibar to England, another of the incidents of 1875, may, we hope, pave the way for great and beneficial changes on the Eastern coast and the central regions of Southern Africa. The visit of the Lord Mayor of London in state to Paris, and the magnificent reception given him by that municipality, will certainly be memorable in the City, and, it is believed, exercised a fair measure of influence in strengthening the good understanding between the two nations.

Parliamentary proceedings, although they resulted in the passing of some useful Acts, can hardly be described as having been satisfactory. Much work was done, or, more properly speaking, much time was spent in laborious deliberation and discussion; but the tactical resource of the Leader of the House, having been put to a somewhat severe test, did not come up to public expectation. Mr. Gladstone's retirement from the post of leader of the Liberal party, and perhaps the inexperience of Lord Hartington, who was chosen to succeed him, may have had something to do with this, indirectly at least. But it was generally felt that the guidance of Parliamentary affairs during the later part of the Session was somewhat capricious, and several scenes occurred damaging to the reputation of the House of Commons which might have been averted by more judicious management. Nevertheless, legislation proceeded, on the whole, to desirable issues. The homes of the poor in the metropolis and in large cities have now some chance of being systematically improved. The public health has been attended to by the consolidation into one Act of numerous measures formerly passed with a view to its protection. A little was done to give greater security to Friendly Societies. The Peace Preservation Act of Ireland mitigated, to some extent, the severity of those exceptional laws under which the tranquillity of the Sister Isle had been previously secured. By a slight amendment of the Judicature Act, and the establishment of an intermediate court of appeal, that Act was brought into operation in November last, and the whole of our judiciary machinery may be said to have been remodelled. Something like reconciliation between labour and capital was effected by Mr. Cross's Labour Bills, and discontent in the Army was smoothed down for the time being by Mr. Gathorne Hardy's Regimental Exchanges Bill, a slightly retrogressive measure, but one which, it is hoped, will be cautiously worked by the War Office. The Budget of the year was as modest in its pretensions as could well be. The surplus to be given away in the remission of taxation was microscopic; but the Chancellor of the Exchequer obtained the sanction of Parliament to arrangements which, if scrupulously adhered to, will, in a few years, tell powerfully upon the diminution of the National Debt.

A.D. 1875 will stand out conspicuously from many of its predecessors on account of the numerous disasters which occurred during its course. Scarcely a week of it passed during which the public press was not called upon to record some frightful catastrophe. Accidents by sea, accidents by rail, accidents in mines, accidents by inundations and floods, and accidents by fire seem to have alternated with the commission or the discovery of terrible crimes. We have not space to particularise. A mere catalogue of them would be too long for our columns. How many families they have plunged into mourning it would be impossible to calculate. What may be the proportion of the population that will have cause during the rest of their lives to retain a gloomy recollection of 1875 can hardly be even approximately conjectured. We can only hope that the year upon which we are entering may not rival that which is gone in this sad pre-eminence, and in this hope we conclude by wishing all our readers "A Happy New Year!"

THE COURT.

The Queen gave a Christmas-tree at Osborne on Christmas Eve to the children of the Whippingham School. Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and the Marquis of Lorne, entered the servants' hall at four o'clock, where the gifts were laid out for distribution, and the Queen handed to each child a present consisting of clothing and cake. The ladies and gentlemen in waiting and the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby, Lady Cowell, and the Rev. George and Mrs. Prothero were present. On Christmas Day her Majesty, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and the Marquis of Lorne attended Divine service at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero and the Rev. W. Gray officiated. On Sunday the Queen, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and the Marquis of Lorne attended Divine service at Osborne, performed by the Rev. George Connor, Vicar of Newport. Her Majesty, with the members of the Royal family, has walked and driven out daily. Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas and the Hon. Lady Biddulph have dined with the Queen. Sir Edmund Commerell, K.C.B., has arrived at Osborne as Groom-in-Waiting to her Majesty. Lady Abercromby has also arrived.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Princess of Wales and the King and Queen of Denmark dined on Christmas Eve with the Hereditary Princess Caroline. The Princess, with their Majesties, afterwards returned to the Royal palace, and were present, with the rest of the Royal family, at the lighting up of the Royal Christmas-tree. Sir C. Lennox Wyke, the British Envoy, and all the Court officials received invitations. On Christmas Day the Princess and the King and Queen of Denmark attended Divine service at the palace church. Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales went to the chapel of the British Legation. The Princess, with the Royal family, passed the day at the palace of the Crown Prince. Her Royal Highness and the Danish Royal family on Thursday visited, at Helsingör, the Dowager Baroness de Blixen-Finecke, sister of the Queen of Denmark.

The annual distribution of Christmas-boxes took place on the Royal estate at Sandringham on Christmas Eve. Seventy stone weight of beef was distributed in the Royal mews to nearly two hundred families, the Rev. W. Lake Onslow and Mr. E. Beck presiding at the distribution. The Princess made her usual gifts of clothing to the school children before leaving Sandringham.

The Duke of Edinburgh has fixed Wednesday, Feb. 2, for the biennial dinner of the Dover National Sailors' Home, at which his Royal Highness has consented to preside.

Princess Louise, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, opened the new building of the Ryde School of Art on Wednesday. The foundation-stone of this building was laid by the Crown Princess of Germany on Aug. 17, 1871, the anniversary of the birthday of the Duchess of Kent, and the schools have been erected by public subscription, the Queen being among the subscribers.

NEW PEERS.

The Queen has been pleased to revive the dukedom of Gordon in the person of the Duke of Richmond, who inherited Gordon Castle and the estates of the last Duke of that name.

Her Majesty has, further, signified her pleasure to raise the Earl of Abergavenny to the dignity of a marquis, to confer an earldom upon Lord Wharncliffe, and to bestow an English peerage upon the Earl of Erne.

The following gentlemen will, there is reason to believe, be summoned to the House of Peers: John Ralph Ormsby-Gore, Esq., member for North Shropshire; Henry Gerard Sturt, Esq., member for the county of Dorset; John Tollemache, Esq., of Helmingham Hall, Suffolk; and Sir Robert Tolver Gerard, Bart., of Bryn, in the county of Lancaster.

Three new peers will be entitled to take their seats on the assembling of Parliament in February. Francis Theophilus Hastings, twelfth Earl of Huntingdon, died shortly after the prorogation of Parliament, and is succeeded by his son, who becomes the thirteenth Earl. On Aug. 29 Lord Grantley died, and is succeeded by his nephew, the second son of the late Hon. George Norton, formerly one of the magistrates at Lambeth Police Court, and of Mrs. Caroline Norton, the accomplished writer. Lord Dorchester died on Dec. 2. In default of male issue, the peerage devolves on his cousin, Colonel Dudley Wilmot Carleton, eldest son of the Hon. and Rev. Richard Carleton. He was born in 1822, and was married, in 1852, to the Hon. Charlotte Hobhouse, eldest daughter of the late Lord Broughton, so well known as Sir John Cam Hobhouse. Lord Fitzwalter, who sat for many years in the House of Commons as Sir Brook Bridges, died on Dec. 6. By his death the peerage becomes extinct, but the baronetcy goes to his brother, who is in holy orders.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Hospital Sunday in London this year has been fixed for June 18.

The British Museum will be closed on New-Year's Day (to-day), and reopened on the 8th.

The Bank directors, on Thursday morning, decided to advance the minimum rate of discount from 3 per cent, at which it was fixed on the 18th ult., to 4 per cent.

At last week's meeting of the School Board for London, Sir Charles Reed presiding, the industrial schools committee presented an elaborate and interesting report embodying various recommendations, and after a long discussion these were agreed to. The board adjourned until Jan. 12.

The Fishmongers' Company has presented 100 gs. to the Provident Clerks' Benevolent Fund, 15, Moorgate-street, and 50 guineas to the Royal Association in aid of the Deaf and Dumb, St. Saviour's Church, Oxford-street. Donations of £50 from the Fishmongers' Company, and of 25 guineas from the Grocers' Company, have been received in aid of the building fund of the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, Golden-square.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week was 88,169, of whom 36,778 were in workhouses and 51,391 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in 1874, 1873, and 1872, these figures show a decrease of 8388, 17,772, and 21,323 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 411, of whom 353 were men, 76 women, and 12 children under sixteen.

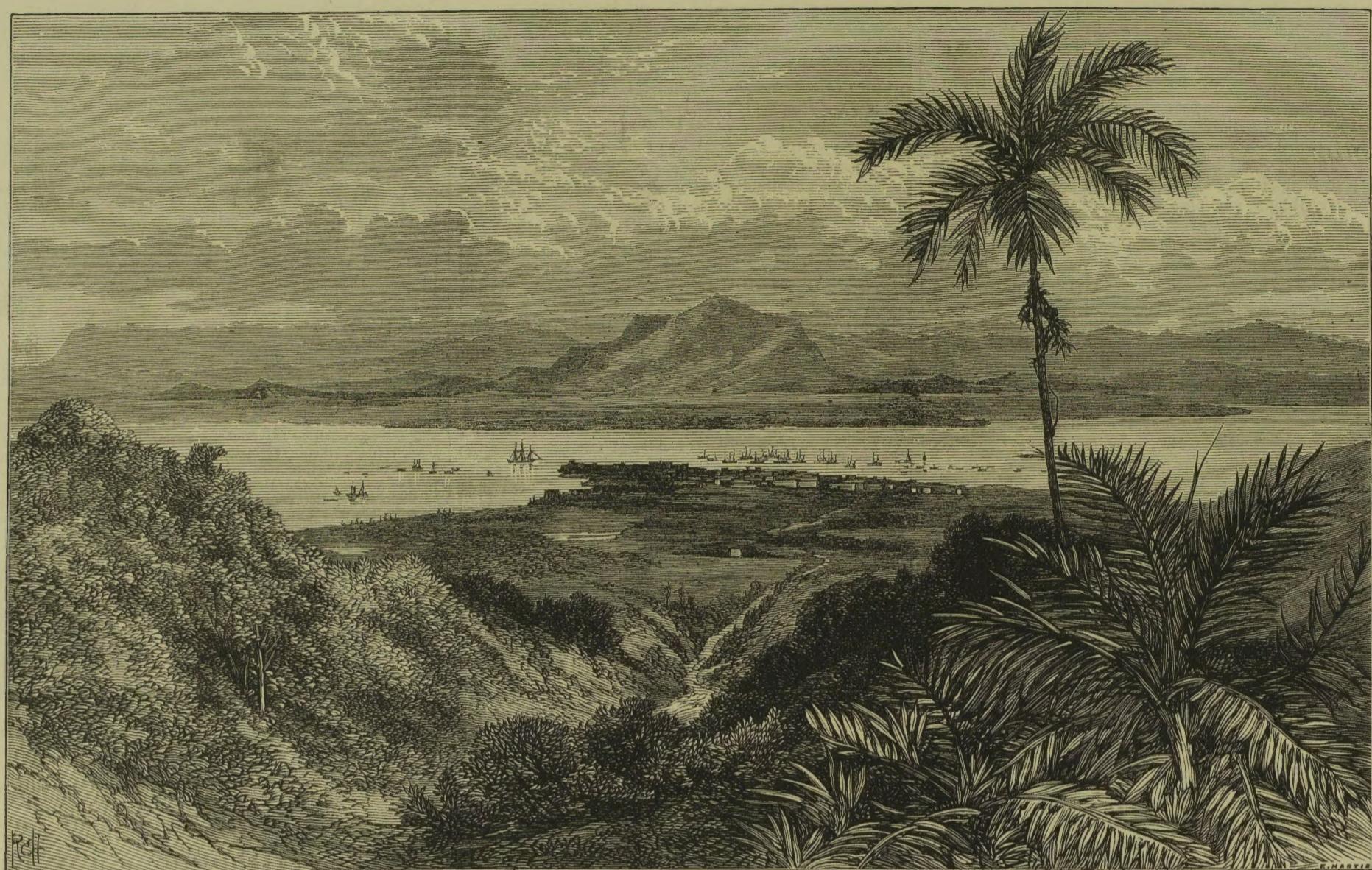
The annual dinner in celebration of the foundation of the Commercial Travellers' Schools, which are situated at Pinners, Middlesex, took place last week, at the London Tavern, when Mr. Francis Peck presided. Mr. Hughes stated, amidst loud cheers, that his partner, Mr. George Moore, had determined to establish a scholarship of £75 in memory of his late partner, Mr. Copestake. During the evening donations to the amount of upwards of £2000 were announced, including 100 gs. from Mr. Peck, the chairman, and 100 gs. from Mr. Winch.

At a meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, last week, a testimonial was presented to Mr. Joseph Soul, well known as an active agent in the foundation of several charitable institutions. Mr. Soul has been for some time afflicted with ill-health, and it was desired by his friends and admirers to assist him in the maintenance of a wife and daughter dependent upon him for their support. A subscription was therefore opened, the result of which has been the collection of £1301 10s. 6d. That sum, having been invested in various securities, was presented to him as a mark of the public appreciation of his long-continued services.

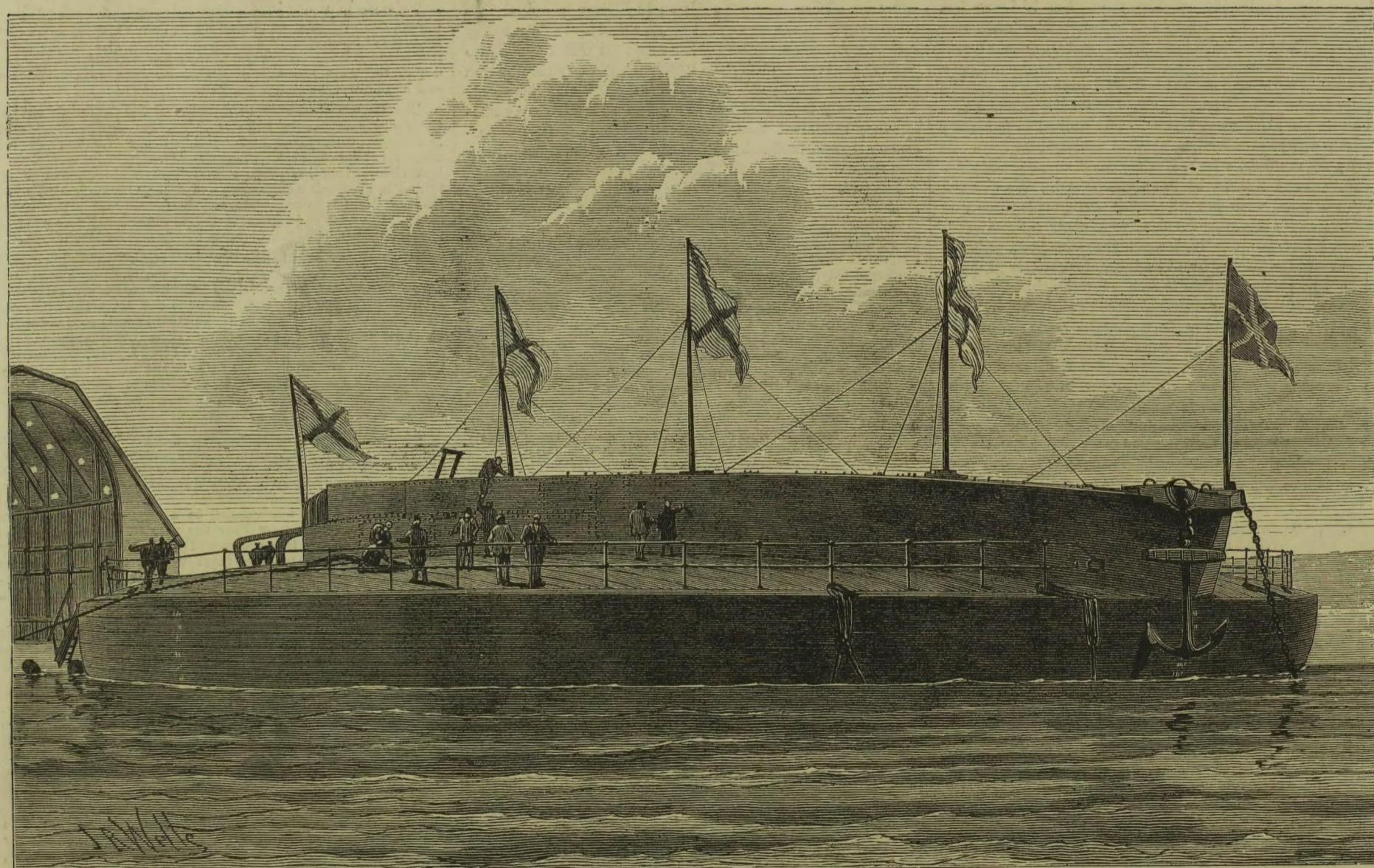
At the ordinary general meeting of the Crystal Palace Company on Tuesday, Mr. Thomas Hughes, the chairman, moved the adoption of the report, which declared no dividend, but proposed to carry over the balance of profit, £4759, to the next half year. This, after a discussion upon the management of the undertaking, was carried by a large majority. From the beginning of the new year the rate of admission to the palace on ordinary Saturdays will be 1s., and on ordinary Mondays, 6d. The railway fares will at the same time be materially reduced for all days; and on Mondays return-tickets, with admission to the palace, may be obtained for a shilling.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress have taken up their residence at the Mansion House, which has been under decoration and repair since the 10th of November last. The Lady Mayoress will be "at home" on the first and third Tuesdays in each month from three to six o'clock. Invitations are being issued by her Ladyship to a children's calico fancy-dress ball on Twelfth Night, Thursday, Jan. 6. We are desired to state that any characteristic fancy dress that can be made in silk or silk velvet may be reproduced in cotton fabrics, which embrace cretonne, velveteen, sateen, and muslin. An adult may or may not, at pleasure, wear a fancy dress, but if a fancy dress be worn it must be of a calico material.

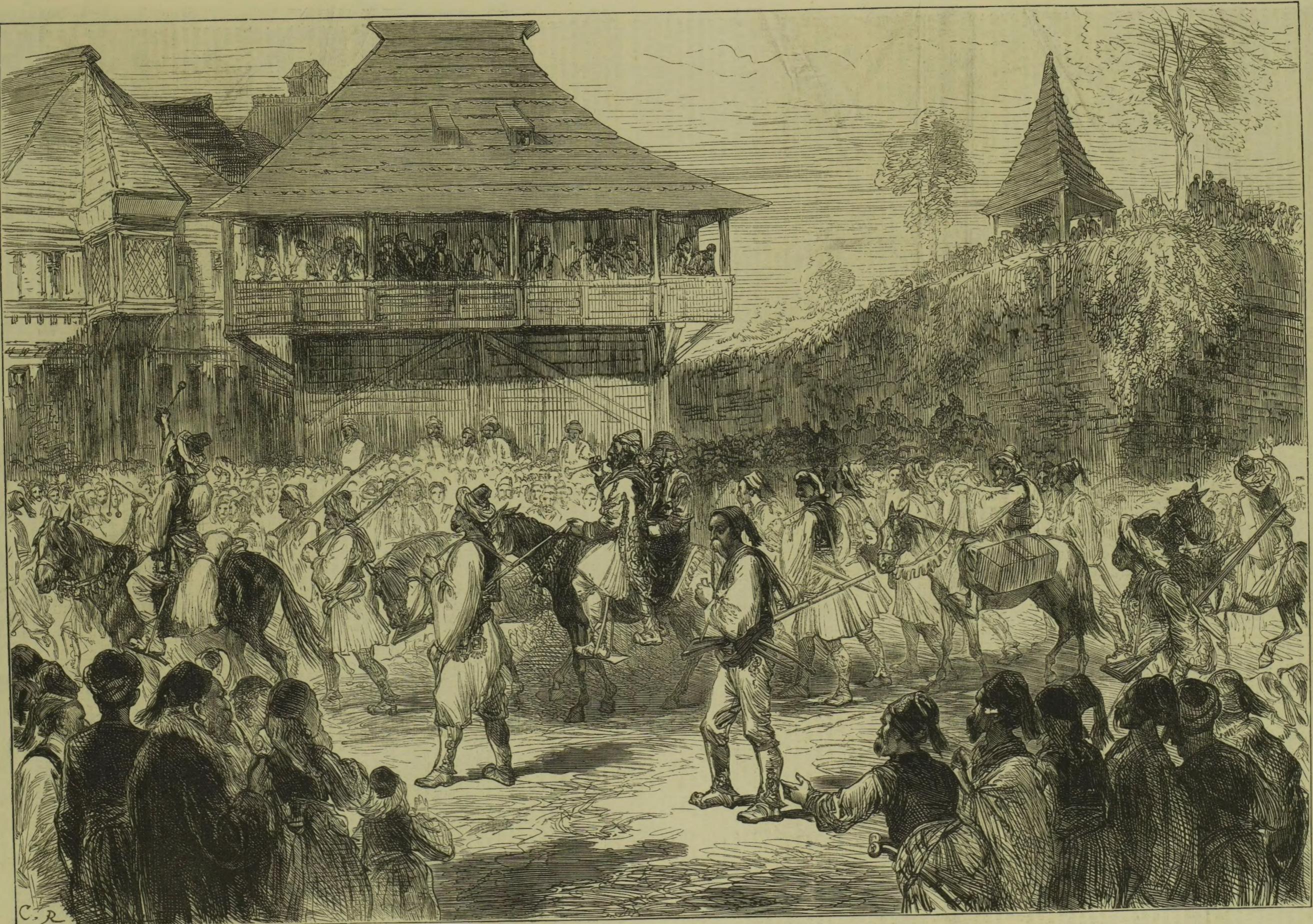
Last week 2050 births and 1603 deaths were registered in London, the former having been 234 and the latter 121 below the average numbers. The deaths included 56 from measles, 85 from scarlet fever, 9 from diphtheria, 71 from whooping-cough, 20 from different forms of fever, 12 from diarrhoea, and not one from smallpox, the mortality from this disease having ceased in London since last July. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which in the two preceding weeks had been 536 and 514, declined to 444, and were 14 below the corrected average number in the corresponding week of the last ten years; 270 resulted from bronchitis, and 116 from pneumonia.



GEORGETOWN, PENANG, NEAR PERAK, IN THE MALAY PENINSULA.



LAUNCH OF THE RUSSIAN CIRCULAR IRONCLAD ADMIRAL POPOFF.



THE WAR IN THE HERZEGOVINA: BASHI-BAZOUKS LEAVING BAYNALUKA FOR SWINA.
FROM A SKETCH BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.

The Extra Supplement.

THE RUSSIAN CIRCULAR IRONCLADS.

The forms and proportions of ironclad ships have undergone great changes in this and other countries since the introduction of armour-plating. In our own country we have had, first, the floating batteries, which were employed against Kinburn during the Russian war; then the half-protected ships of the Warrior and Defence classes, of which the Warrior and her consorts were long fine-lined vessels, resembling the finest Transatlantic steam-ships more than men-of-war. Then the still longer completely-plated vessels of the Minotaur class, which were 400 feet long, and much more than that when measured over all from stem to taffrail. Then came Mr. Reed's short ironclads of the Bellerophon and Hercules classes, with a great variety of smaller vessels, some wholly protected and some partly protected, according to their size and character. Turret-ships, both for coast defence and for seagoing purposes, came also at intervals; and at length we have got to citadel ships, with armour in the centre and armour at the ends several feet below the water, and with all the unarmoured portions at each end unprotected. Throughout all these changes one principle seems to have been kept pretty steadily in view since the Bellerophon was designed—namely, that of continually increasing the proportion which the breadth of the ship bears to the length. The last vessels of Admiralty design and of the first class, such as the Inflexible and Ajax, exhibit this feature in the greatest degree, being extremely short for their very great breadth. It is, Admiral Popoff, the distinguished designer of the circular ironclads, avers, merely the extreme form of this principle that he has embodied in his circular vessels, which we this week illustrate. The invention of circular ships is claimed by and on behalf of several other persons who, it is represented, suggested the idea before Admiral Popoff adopted it. But, on the other hand, it is alleged that circular water-lines were in all these cases associated with a circular contour of section, which involved a deep draught of water; whereas the circularity, so to speak, of the Russian ships is confined to the water-lines only, the section exhibiting a flat bottom joined to the sides by circular arcs or quadrants, thus enabling the armour, guns, engines, &c., of the vessel to be floated on a light draught of water. This was essential in the Russian vessels, because they were primarily intended for the defence of the Sea of Azov and of the mouths of the great river Dnieper. These vessels have a very small freeboard, their unarmoured sides standing only 18 inches out of the water; but the deck, which is 100 feet in diameter, has considerable upward curvature, so that at the middle of the vessel it is 5 feet or 6 feet above the water. Above this deck is a system of superstructures employed as cabins, &c., and in the centre is an armour-plated fixed turret, in which two powerful guns are worked. These guns revolve full circle with the turret, being worked with much ease by a very simple system of machinery designed for the purpose. Each of the guns weighs 28 tons in the Novgorod, the first of these vessels; and each will weigh 41½ tons in the second vessel, the Admiral Popoff. The armour of the Novgorod, with a peculiar iron backing formed of channel rails, is stated to be equivalent to 11-inch solid armour plating, that of the Admiral Popoff to 18-inch plating. Each of the vessels is propelled by six screw-propellers placed upon independent shafts, all of which are parallel to each other, and each of which is driven by a separate engine. Considerable interest has been excited in these vessels by the recent letters of Mr. E. J. Reed, C.B., M.P., published in the *Times*, after the writer had made a careful inspection of both vessels, and had made a considerable voyage in the Black Sea in the former vessel, part of the voyage being in rough weather. Mr. Reed stated that the vessel was singularly steady, and that the waves, even in a rough sea, did not roll over the vessel in anything like the quantities which might have been supposed in the case of a vessel of so low a side.

THE LAUNCH OF THE ADMIRAL POPOFF.

Owing to the great interest recently excited in the circular ironclads of Russia from causes referred to in our article upon these vessels, we have thought it desirable to give a representation of the launch of the Admiral Popoff, which took place on Oct. 7 last at the port of Nicolaieff, which is situated on the river Bug, and is now the great naval station of the Russian Black Sea Fleet. The vessel, in so far as the hull is concerned, was completely built and armour-plated, and also sheathed with wood sheathing over the whole bottom, and covered with copper sheets, before the launch took place. The fixed turret was also constructed, but not armour-plated, and the deck-houses and superstructures were only in part erected. The ship was launched by means of six parallel slideways similar to those of which two only are used for the launch of a ship of the ordinary form. The increased number was, of course, to give proper support to the vessel which was practically 120 feet broad, that being the diameter of the circle which her upper deck forms. The launch was attended by his Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantine, who is Lord High Admiral of the Russian Navy, and who made a close personal inspection of the vessel in every part, both before and after the launch. The Admiral Popoff is to be completed with all possible dispatch, and will in all probability be succeeded on the stocks by another vessel of much larger diameter, and with much thicker armour than hers. We need hardly say that the launch of such a vessel excited considerable interest; Mr. Reed, the late Chief Constructor of the British Navy, having gone to Russia for the purpose of attending it. As may be supposed, the launching of a body 120 feet broad, and drawing between nine and ten feet of water, even when light, into a comparatively narrow river like the Ingul—for the dockyard of Nicolaieff stands upon the last bend of the Ingul before it empties itself into the Bug—produced a great disturbance of the water and drove much of it away from the shore in the immediate vicinity of the launch. Its displacement was attended by a return wave, the impetus of which carried it back much beyond the previous water level, and therefore among the workmen and other people stationed along the shore. All the circumstances of the launch were, however, most propitious; and Nicolaieff was *en fête* for the occasion, and illuminated at night in honour of the event.

ADMIRAL POPOFF.

This distinguished officer, the designer of the circular ironclads which we this week illustrate, began his career as a Lieutenant in the Black Sea fleet of Russia, and in that capacity was soon intrusted with the command of a steamer on a foreign station. At the beginning of the Crimean War he was promoted to the rank of Commander; and during the siege of Sebastopol, notwithstanding the presence of the allied fleets, on several occasions left the harbour in steam-vessels, and made cruises at sea for the purpose of burning the merchant-vessels of the English Navy. He succeeded in destroying several store-ships, one of them in broad day, and at eleven miles only from the Bos-

phorus. While on shore he was intrusted with all the arrangements for transporting the Russian army from one side of the Bay of Sebastopol to the other, and had much to do with the placing of those obstructions which prevented the allied fleets from entering the bay. During the continuance of the siege the supply of the land batteries with artillery and ammunition from the ships was performed under his immediate superintendence. When his services ceased to be required at Sebastopol, he was sent to Archangel to construct six ships, and afterwards had the actual command of the squadron, with temporary Rear-Admiral's rank. This was the only example in the Russian navy of a captain having been intrusted with the command of a squadron sent on foreign service. He was subsequently appointed Aide-de-Camp to his Imperial Majesty, and has held that position for about twenty years. On each occasion of the Duke of Edinburgh's visits to Russia, Admiral Popoff has had the honour of attending his Royal Highness in the capacity of his Imperial Majesty's general Aide-de-Camp.

Admiral Popoff is the designer of the Peter the Great, and of several other special armoured vessels of the Russian navy, each of which has given evidence of much original and independent thought on his part; but that by which Admiral Popoff will be best known in future is the invention and construction of the circular ironclads. It is true that he has in the most frank and public manner explained that he is indebted for the origin of the idea of these vessels in his own mind to the works and views of Mr. Reed; but, on the other hand, Mr. Reed, who has seen these vessels and understands them thoroughly, declares that they exhibit throughout their design and arrangement much original and inventive thought which cannot in any way be traced to him, and for which Admiral Popoff deserves the greatest possible credit.

PENANG AND MALACCA.

The outrage perpetrated by the Malays of Perak, in the Malay Peninsula, in the murder of Mr. W. J. Birch, the British Political Resident, has been punished by a military force, as was duly recorded at the time in these pages. The latest intelligence from Penang received at the Colonial Office states that the combined English force took possession of Kinta, without loss, on Dec. 7, after a three days' severe march from Blanja, through twenty miles of jungle; that there was no serious opposition; that the Malays were quickly dislodged by guns and rockets; and that Ismail and Maharajah Lela fled, taking the regalia with them. On the 22nd the insurgent Malays were driven from a position in a mountain pass, where they had strongly fortified themselves. This success was due to the gallantry and judgment of Captain Channer, who with a party of Ghoorkas surprised and took a stockade flanking the position. Colonel Anson reports that Captain Channer crept up unseen behind a Malay in the jungle, and followed him into the stockade, where he shot him. Twenty-five Goorkhas rushed in after the Captain, and surprised the Malays, five of whom were killed, and the remainder fled. Commander Stirling and Colonel Hill made a long flank march and came in at the back of the principal stockade, and took it. All the forces worked well and behaved most gallantly. The Governor proceeds to Malacca. No more resistance is expected.

The nearest British settlement to Perak is that of Pulo Penang, or Prince of Wales's Island, from which nearly all our intelligence of the doings at Perak has been received. We give a view of its capital—Georgetown, situated at its northeast extremity, which has a good harbour. The Strait of Malacca forms almost a land-locked sea, of which the extreme length is about 500 miles, the breadth varying from 40 to 300. In four or five days after leaving Galle the entrance to the strait is made, and Penang, which forms part of the colony of the Strait Settlements, is passed. Opposite it, on the east side, lies Province Wellesley, a district comprising about 140 miles of the mainland, but which is also within the limits of the colony; here sugar is largely and successfully cultivated. The acquisition of Penang was first determined on by Warren Hastings, but it was not till after his death that the island was ceded to the British, in 1780, by the then Rajah of Quedah. As a harbour and commercial emporium Penang has made considerable advance, but its soil has not equalled the expectations which its founder formed of it. The cultivation of pepper, at one time large, has given place to nutmegs; and fruits, which flourish luxuriantly, add to the health of the island. Approaching the eastern end of the strait, and separated from the island of Sumatra by a channel only forty-five miles wide, is Malacca, the oldest European settlement in the Far East. The silting up of the roadstead and the growing importance of Singapore have deprived Malacca—which, like Penang, is the seat of a Lieutenant-Governor of the Strait Settlements—of all commercial importance; and the unfortunate system of land tenure left us by its former occupants, the Dutch, has stood in the way of a full development of the country's natural resources.

THE INSURRECTION IN THE HERZEGOVINA AND BOSNIA.

The insurgent leaders in the Herzegovina, having consulted with representative Christians from Bosnia, have resolved not to pay any regard to the Sultan's promises of reform, but to continue the conflict until the Turks are driven out. According to a telegram received by the Sublime Porte last Saturday, a smart engagement between the Turkish troops and a considerable body of insurgents—most of them Montenegrins—took place on the previous day, lasting from four till eight o'clock in the morning. The insurgents, after being completely beaten, fled to the mountains.

We give, from a sketch by one of our Special Artists, an illustration of Bashi-Bazouks leaving their camp at Baynaluka to join the Nizams before Swina. Persians, Nubians, Albanians, and representatives of other Eastern nations besides Turkey figure among the Bashi-Bazouks, whom our Artist pictures as they are in the act of marching out of camp with their band playing martial music of the most primitive nature.

The insertion of our Obituary column is unavoidably deferred.

The recent strike of the Warwickshire miners involved an expenditure of £20,000 on the part of the men.

Mr. Carrington has bequeathed £2000 to the Royal Society, and a like sum to the Royal Astronomical Society.

It is said that Mr. Ruskin has obtained a site near Sheffield, and has received subscriptions to the amount of £8000, for the founding of his model Arcadian village.

The second annual congress, under the auspices of the Educational Institute of Scotland and the Association of Higher Class Schoolmasters, was opened in Glasgow on Tuesday. Mr. Thomas Morrison, M.A., Rector of the Free Church Training College, presided. The hall was well filled with ladies and gentlemen, there being representatives present from all parts of Scotland.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Dec. 30.

Throughout the past week Paris has worn a fête-day aspect, and, spite of the rain and the fog, the boulevards have been thronged of an afternoon and evening with promenaders, greatly to the satisfaction of the dealers in cheap *étreintes* installed in the *baraques* which invariably line the great arteries of Parisian life at this season of the year. The approach of the Jour de l'An has been marked by the ordinary incidents. The *magasins de nouveautés* have been announcing the display of attractive novelties; new bonbons and new toys have made their appearance; splendidly bound gift-books have been issued by the leading publishers; new plays and operettas have been brought out at many of the theatres; the bals masqués of the Opéra Comique have been inaugurated, and hundreds of thousands of *cartes-de-visite* have been confided to the post for distribution.

While Paris has been thus preparing for the new year, the Versailles Legislature has been wrangling over the new press law—a measure which promises to reduce the French Fourth Estate to very nearly the same condition of bondage as it was subjected to under the Second Empire. The debates concerning this bill have been remarkably stormy, and more than once a Ministerial crisis has appeared imminent. A lengthy oration from M. Buffet, containing but few allusions to the law in question, but referring constantly and most bitterly to the tactics of the Republicans, culminated in a declaration that, however hard the Chamber might try to oust him and his colleagues, it would never succeed in imposing a Radical Ministry upon Marshal MacMahon, who was resolved only to govern with the support of the solidly Conservative. This most unconstitutional assertion has apparently received the sanction of the Chief of the State, for he is stated to have written to M. Buffet congratulating him upon the speech in question. Monday's sitting at Versailles was one of the most exciting that has occurred during the existence of the present Legislature. The first article of the press law enumerates the penalties to be inflicted on writers attacking the Government of the Republic, and naturally enough it was scarcely to the taste of the Royalist and Imperialist deputies. Two violent speeches from MM. Raoul Duval and de Castellane brought M. Dufaure, Minister of Justice, to the tribune, and an allusion having been made by the first-named speaker to the scandalous manner in which France had been governed by the Duc de Broglie, the latter also rushed into the mêlée, but only to encounter a powerful and crushing rejoinder from M. Ernest Picard. Article 1 having been eventually adopted, article 2, which deals with the distribution of seditious pamphlets in the provinces, next came on for discussion, and was opposed, on legal grounds, by M. Jules Favre, who, nevertheless, loudly denounced the Bonapartist propaganda now being carried on by means of pamphlets of this description. His remarks on this head brought to the tribune a certain M. de Valon, an obscure but devoted partisan of the Imperial régime, who, having no better weapons at his command, foolishly began to taunt Jules Favre with his conduct during the war of 1870, especially reproaching him with having declined, from interested motives, to make peace at Ferrières, when he might have secured far better terms than those which were eventually obtained. To this assertion the ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs retorted by declaring that from the commencement of the war Prussia had been determined to obtain possession of both Alsace and Lorraine, and that the responsibility of the disasters of France fell entirely upon the detested Empire, whose revision the Assembly had pronounced, but which still dared to show itself at the tribune. A perfect uproar followed this remark, the Left vociferously applauding their champion, while the Imperialists assailed him with every kind of abusive epithet.

Tuesday's sitting was less agitated. The Chamber began by voting an amendment submitted by M. de Janzé, which specifies that the interdiction of the sale of a newspaper on the public way can only be pronounced by a court of law and not by the Minister of the Interior and the préfets and sous-préfets under his control. Articles 3 and 4 of the Government bill, which were subsequently adopted, place, however, numerous categories of press offences under the jurisdiction of the correctional tribunals, where no jurors officiate, on the pretence that in the assize courts, where these offences have hitherto been tried, the jury has invariably displayed an undue inclination to acquit.

The complementary senatorial elections will take place on Jan. 9, and numerous candidates are already in the field. M. Thiers comes forward in the arrondissement of Belfort, and Marshal Canrobert presents himself in the department of the Saône. Prince Napoleon and Prince Pierre Bonaparte, moreover, announce themselves as rival candidates in Corsica. On the other hand, the Duc d'Aumale and the Prince de Joinville do not intend allowing themselves to be nominated. They have each addressed a circular to their present constituents briefly recapitulating the manner in which they have fulfilled the duty confided to them; and, while regretting that their efforts to restore the Monarchy were unsuccessful, formally declaring that they have loyally accepted and intend to respect the government which France has chosen for herself.

The old French saying, "Les morts vont vite," is singularly apropos just now. This week one has to record the death of three distinguished men, each eminent in his particular sphere, and whose loss will be severely felt in Parisian society, in which they occupied a marked position. The most noted of the three is Vicomte Arthur de la Guéronnière, Ambassador and deputy under the Second Empire, and one of Napoleon III.'s most devoted and least unscrupulous partisans. As a journalist M. de la Guéronnière achieved in his younger days numerous successes, and many of the pamphlets so widely disseminated throughout France, to prepare the way for the re-establishment of the Empire, were due to his pen. It was he also who, on behalf of the Bonapartist party, indirectly responded to Victor Hugo's scathing brochure "Napoléon le Petit." M. de la Guéronnière, who was sixty years of age, died suddenly of apoplexy on Thursday last; on which day the Marquis de St. Georges, the librettist of some of the most successful French operas that have appeared during the past sixty years, also expired. The collaborateur of Auber, of Haberg, Flotow, and Grisar, was seventy-five years of age. On Sunday M. Charles Lafitte, equally well known in financial and sporting circles, died suddenly in Paris. As "Major Fridolin" M. Lafitte has long been popular among *habitues* of the turf, and his colours are as familiar to the sporting fraternity at Epsom and Newmarket as they were at Longchamps and Chantilly.

SPAIN.

A Cabinet Council was held at Madrid, on Monday, at which it was decided that the Cortes should be opened in February next.

Hernani is being vigorously bombarded by the Carlists, but reinforcements and other assistance have been introduced into the town and Fort Santa Barbara. The Royal troops and

the Carlists have been fighting so close to the frontier that a number of projectiles have fallen on French territory, and a woman has been killed in a French village.

PORTUGAL.

At a special audience at the Court of Lisbon, on Tuesday, Senor de Castro, the new Spanish Ambassador, presented his credentials, friendly assurances being exchanged on the occasion between his Majesty and the Ambassador.

RUSSIA.

Severe fighting is reported by the *Invalid Russe* to have taken place in the district of Zarefschan, in consequence of a tribe having revolted at the instigation of emissaries from Khokand. The insurgents were chastised, and the insurrectionary leaders fled from Khokand, the revolt being regarded as suppressed.

AMERICA.

Despatches exchanged between the United States Government and that of Mexico in regard to the raids made from Mexico upon American territory were published on Monday in New York. A request was made by the Washington Government to allow the United States troops to cross the Rio Grande in pursuit of the raiders; but this was refused. Thereupon the Mexican Government was informed that if it failed to put down these hostile incursions it might be found necessary to disregard the refusal so given.

CANADA.

The Ontario Legislature have voted an appropriation of 79,000 dols. to encourage the immigration of agricultural labourers and domestic servants. The proposal was opposed on the ground that it was unjust to attract immigrants during a period of industrial depression.

Employment has been found by the authorities of Montreal for fifteen hundred of the distressed workmen who were engaged in the food riot which recently took place.

AUSTRALIA.

An amendment to the Budget brought forward in the Victoria Legislative Assembly has been negatived by forty-three votes against twenty-eight. In consequence of this defeat the Opposition has begun a policy of obstruction with the view of forcing a dissolution.

The Czar and Czarina have given 10,000 roubles in aid of the Herzegovinians who have taken refuge in Montenegro.

The treaty of commerce between Turkey and Persia has been signed by Reshid Pasha and Mousin Khan.

A telegram from Monte Video, dated Dec. 24, says:—"The revolution is quelled; a general amnesty has been granted."

The Sultan has sent a handsome bracelet set with diamonds to Lady Strangford, at present staying in Constantinople, as a mark of his Majesty's regard.

The National Council of Switzerland has ratified, without debate, the International Telegraph Convention concluded at St. Petersburg.

Great activity is being displayed by the Egyptian War Office in connection with the recently-reported destruction of a body of the Khedive's soldiers in Abyssinia.

While Christmas was being celebrated in the school-house of the village of Helliken, canton of Aargau, Switzerland, the flooring of the upper room and the staircase leading to it gave way, and eighty persons were killed and fifty injured.

A hurricane swept over the provinces of Albay and Camarines, in the southern part of the Island of Manilla, in the Indian Archipelago, on Nov. 30. More than 200 persons are stated to have been killed, and 3800 inhabited houses, the crops, and a considerable number of animals were destroyed.

Reports of large diamonds found at the Cape are telegraphed from Madeira, one being said to weigh three hundred carats, and another, found at Beeri, one hundred and three carats, producing the finder £350. A silver-mine is also reported to have been discovered in the Transvaal.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Askwith, W. H., to be Vicar of Christ Church, Derby.
Campbell, David; Chaplain of H.M. Prison, Borstal, Rochester.
Cleary, Richard; Incumbent of St. Matthew's, Jersey.
Courtenay, Robert; Organising Secretary for the Diocese of Lincoln for the National Association for Promoting Freedom of Worship.
Dolbé, C. V.; Chaplain of the Strand Industrial Schools at Edmonton.
Drake, Charles Bernard; Vicar of All Saints', Cambridge.
Ewing, Alexander; Vicar of St. Peter's, Islington.
Frith, E. B. Cockayne; Vicar of Market Lavington.
Leitch, Robert; Vicar of Smissy, Derbyshire.
Prior, Stephen James; Fellow of St. Augustine's College, Canterbury.
Ree, Henry; Rector of Poynington, near Sherborne, Dorset.
Stamer, Sir L. T., Bart.; Prebendary of Longdon in Lichfield Cathedral.

The usual Christmas services took place in the churches of the metropolis yesterday week, afternoon and evening. Many of them were beautifully decorated, and in not a few Christmas carols were sung.

More than sixty clergymen of Birmingham, who are desirous of reducing the expenses connected with funerals, so far as may be consistent with due respect to the dead, have signed a request that no hatsbands, scarves, or gloves be henceforth presented to them on such occasions.

The Dean of Westminster preached in Westminster Abbey on Tuesday (Innocents' Day) his annual sermon to children. In the course of his address he referred to the burning of the Goliath, and remarked that the conduct of the boys on board that vessel showed how much could be done by careful training.

The Rev. R. S. Copleston, D.D., who was recently appointed to succeed Dr. Jermyn, now Bishop of Brechin, in the diocese of Colombo, was, on Tuesday morning, consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury in Westminster Abbey. The Archbishop was accompanied by the Bishops of London, Salisbury, Lichfield, Oxford, Edinburgh, Brechin, and the Coadjutor-Bishop of London, Dr. Clapham.

A testimonial has been presented to the Rev. P. M. Benson, M.A., consisting of a valuable gold watch and chain, from the congregations of St. Leodegarius and Christ Churches, Basford, Nottinghamshire; and also a silver inkstand, from the choirs, Sunday School teachers, and scholars, on his leaving the curacy after a residence of nearly thirteen years.—A handsome presentation has been made at the National Schools, Stockport, to the Rev. John Walker, on the occasion of his resignation of the curacy of St. Mary's Church, Stockport, which he has held for five years. The testimonial consisted of an illuminated address in a morocco case and a purse containing £150, which had been subscribed by the congregation of St. Mary's. Presentations have also been made to him on behalf of the children attending the day schools and by the Sunday School teachers and scholars.

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN INDIA.

The Prince's arrival at Calcutta, on Thursday week, marks an important stage of his Indian progress. The Prince landed at 4.39 p.m., under salutes from the fort and squadron. His Royal Highness was received at the landing-stage by the Viceroy, the Commander-in-Chief, the Bishop, the Chief Justice, the members of the council, the Judges, and also by Scindia and Holkar, the Rajahs of Cashmere and Jeypore, and many other Chiefs. The chairman of the municipality presented an address. A brilliant procession was then formed, and the Prince proceeded to Government House. The National Anthem was sung by 10,000 school children. His Royal Highness was waited on by the Begum of Bhopal, who was introduced by the Viceroy. Next day the Prince received visits from the Maharajahs Holkar and Scindia, and other Princes. His Royal Highness attended Divine service in the cathedral on Christmas morning. In the afternoon he proceeded to Barakpore, accompanied by the Viceroy, and was present at a State dinner and evening party given by the Viceroy. On Sunday he visited the French settlement of Chandernagore; and on Monday his Royal Highness was present at a polo-match at Munipore. He afterwards left by river for Calcutta, where he arrived about noon, and, later in the day, received the Nepalese and Burmese Ambassadors and other native dignitaries. In the afternoon the Prince opened the new Zoological Gardens just formed under the auspices of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Accompanied by the members of his suite, his Royal Highness then attended a garden party given in his honour by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal at Belvedere. During the afternoon the Prince visited the General Hospital, and expressed great satisfaction with the arrangements for the care of the patients. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal gave a state dinner to the Prince in the evening. His Royal Highness afterwards attended a splendid ball given by the Viceroy at Government House. The Prince was occupied on Tuesday morning in returning the visits of several of the native princes. At three o'clock there was a Levée at Government House. About two thousand presentations were made, ending with native officers. A state dinner was given at Government House, after which the Prince, the Viceroy, and a large party attended a native entertainment, which was very successful. His Royal Highness and the Viceroy, accompanied by their respective suites, on Wednesday, attended races which had been got up in the Prince's honour. The purses and cups were subscribed chiefly by natives. In the evening the Prince was present at a state dinner given by the Viceroy at Government House. His Royal Highness rested on Thursday, lurching on board the Serapis.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Government House, Calcutta, the residence of the Prince of Wales while in that city, occupies the principal site in Calcutta. It faces the Maidan, which is the Hyde Park of the "City of Palaces." This title Calcutta earned for itself when the classic styles of architecture were more exclusively admired than in the present day. Chowringhee, which forms the eastern side of the Maidan, being built with large and fine houses, each in a separate compound or garden, all having Greek colonnades, porticos, &c., were considered, according to the taste of the period, to be rather a successful result, and a high-sounding phrase was given to express it, which has remained even to this day as a cognomen for the capital of Bengal. These palaces are, when considered critically, anything but good specimens of the classic style of architecture. They are built of brick, a material implying quite a different manner of building from that of the Greek model, and plastered over with choomam. Government House is an exception to this, and is of a better construction. The plan of it might be described as a quadrangle, but a St. Andrew's cross will convey a nearer notion of its true form. This arrangement was adopted with a view to ventilation. A quadrangle would have required a central court, while the form adopted leaves the whole open to any breath of wind which may chance to blow. At one time a figure of Britannia stood on the top of the dome; but it was so suggestive of the brass spike on the apex of an Indian topée, or helmet-hat, that the figure was removed. The private gardens of the house are in front; and to the south of them, and in a line with the centre of Government House, stands the equestrian statue of Lord Hardinge. Four gates open to the approaches: on the top of each is a lion with a ball under the right paw. The "adjudants," or storks, have a particular liking for the tops of these gates, and more particularly it is their habit to perch themselves on the lions, where they remain looking profound and grave, as is their manner—the air which they assume being something very like what one might expect as belonging to the important officials who surround the Governor-General.

The Townhall, Calcutta, in which the public balls and dinners are held, and in which a ball in honour of the Prince of Wales was appointed to be given yesterday (Friday), is a handsome edifice, in the Doric style of architecture, situated on the Esplanade.

The Eka is one of the many forms of Indian vehicles, and derives its name from ek ("one") from its being pulled by one horse. The most common vehicle is perhaps the bilee, from bilee and ox, by which it is driven. This last is slow and lumbering, and might be called "growler," like our own four-wheeled cab; while the eka, with its horse, being lighter in construction, is the "hansom" of the locality.

The Prince of Wales, on his voyage from Bombay to Ceylon, paid a visit to Goa, the former capital of the Portuguese possessions in India. It is situated on the western coast of the Indian peninsula, about 240 miles south of Bombay. The gentleman to whom we are indebted for the two sketches of the Prince of Wales at Goa gives the following particulars:—"This ship (the Serapis), with the Raleigh and Osborne, arrived here last night, Nov. 26, and this morning early the Prince embarked with his suite on board the May Frere, the Governor of Bombay's yacht, and steamed up to the town of New Goa. His Excellency the Governor-General, with his suite, came on board, and immediately afterwards the Prince landed with him in the Governor's state-barge, the Serapis steam-barge, with the remainder of the suite, following. This is represented in the illustration at page 24, taken from the May Frere. The building on the left is Government House. After holding a Levée there, everyone embarked in two steam-barges and steamed up the river to Old Goa, about three or four miles up. The Engraving on the first page represents his Royal Highness and the Governor in a palanquin being carried to the cathedral. On the left is the native band that greeted him, the bandmaster playing a trumpet and big drum at the same time. The Prince wore undress Field Marshal's uniform. On each side walked one of the Prince's equerries and one of the Governor's aides-de-camp. In the background is a forest of cocoanut-trees. The whole party subsequently returned to lunch on board the Serapis." The *Times* correspondent in the Serapis thus reports the landing at Goa:—"There was a great crowd of Portuguese and natives collected off Government House. A battalion of European and a battalion of native troops were drawn up, with a military band and

colours, and many boats were sailing about the harbour. There were no ladies visible. The Governor and his suite came off in a curious eighteen-oar galley, the oarsmen wearing scarlet caps with very antique silver plaques. A crowd of respectable citizens received the Prince and the Governor, the natives being very eager to obtain a sight of the illustrious visitor. The Prince passed along the line of sepoys and the Portuguese corps to the Government House. The Governor presented the principal officials, after which the Prince and the Governor, with their suites, embarked on board two steam-launches and proceeded up the river to old Goa—half an hour's run. There the Prince inspected the monuments of the ancient greatness and departed splendour of the Portuguese settlement. The quays and the old arsenal are now ruins, as are also the Government buildings. Convents, monasteries, churches, and palaces crown the heights, and the shores are lined with cocoanut and palm trees, with a densely-wooded background. The Prince landed and drove with his suite, in two carriages, under the ancient gateway of Vasco de Gama, under which every Viceroy of Goa must pass. He visited St. Catherine's Cathedral, passing the Palace of the Inquisition and the Church of St. Caffan, built after the model of St. Peter's, at Rome. This church possesses a noble interior, with many rich shrines. There were a few native Christian women praying, but no crowd. The Prince walked round and examined the shrines; and next, in litters called mancheels, or on foot, the party proceeded to Bom Jesus Church, a very fine edifice, with a curious shrine of St. Francis Xavier. The altar is of marble, and was presented by the Grand Duke of Tuscany. It has silver and bronze ornaments, with relics, and the windows have oyster-shell films in lieu of glass. The Prince inspected the solid gold and chased silver vessels containing the sacred elements, and the quaint cabinets, which are most interesting. The visitors re-embarked in the steam-launches and returned to Panjim, where the Governor and suite proceeded with the Prince to the Serapis, and were received with a Royal salute. The Governor lunched with the Prince, and the visit appeared to afford great gratification to all parties. The Governor returned to Panjim under a salute."

Great preparations were made at Colombo, Ceylon, to receive the Prince of Wales in a suitable manner. Some details are given by the *Daily Telegraph* correspondent:—"I have before remarked on the adaptability of the palm-leaf for purposes of ornamentation. Perhaps it may be argued that, in a place so full of foliage as Colombo, floral decoration was needless; but, given that triumphal arches are an orthodox expression of loyalty, Colombo has outvied Bombay itself. It is the home of fruits as well as of flowers. It was therefore with little astonishment that I saw pyramids of fruit eight feet high surrounding the bases of arches, fruit hanging in great clusters all along the line of route, and fruit on the arches themselves. Pray do not imagine that what we in England know as a triumphal arch was to be seen in Ceylon. Here were lightness and strength, but nothing solid or heavy. Lest there should be sameness, the ingenious gentleman to whom the decorations of Colombo were confided bethought him of something new, and, as Ceylon is not only a great fruit store and conservatory of grandly painted flowers, but also the home of the elephant, he made arches of effigies of these magnificent creatures—arches of elephants composed of canvas and rich Oriental blossoms, arches representing the king of Ceylon beasts entwining trunks and tusks, and upraising their heads in order to let the Prince pass under. [Our illustration at page 17 shows one of these made-up elephants being borne to its place of destination.] You never lose sight of the elephant in Ceylon. True he is not in the streets, as at Baroda, or even in the suburbs, as at Hyderabad; but the effigy is everywhere."

The Prince landed at Colombo on Dec. 1. Salutes were fired from the fleet and the shore in honour of the Princess's birthday. The Governor (the Right Hon. W. H. Gregory), Major-General J. A. Street, C.B., the Hon. A. N. Birch, and staff lunched on board the Serapis. At four o'clock the Prince landed officially. The Governor presented the Executive and Legislative Councils, and the principal gentlemen. There was an immense, enthusiastic, and excited but tractable crowd, and the decorations were pretty. The Executive Council presented an address, to which the Prince made a gracious reply. The Municipality also presented an address, in a beautiful casket, characteristic of Colombo. The Prince was much pleased with the sight of the novel tropical vegetation. The carriages drove through the town amid a continuous triumph. The procession passed through the principal routes and by the chief buildings round by the seashore to Government House. The Prince returned to the Serapis at dusk, and the Governor-General and his suite dined on board. The Cinghalese men, almost without exception, wear the native costume. This consists of a petticoat, not a miscellaneous drapery like the robe of the Indian of the mainland, but a straight-down petticoat, and a sort of jacket, generally black. They wear their hair long, and tied in a knot like women's, and always wear a large comb, either stuck upright in the knob of hair, or (and this is the more general fashion) they wear a long comb extending right over the head and coming down behind the ears. The effect of all this is, of course, to give them a singularly feminine aspect, which is increased by the soft and gentle expression of face and features. Our Artist has shown, in the illustration at page 20, the Governor of Ceylon introducing some of the native chiefs to the Prince of Wales.

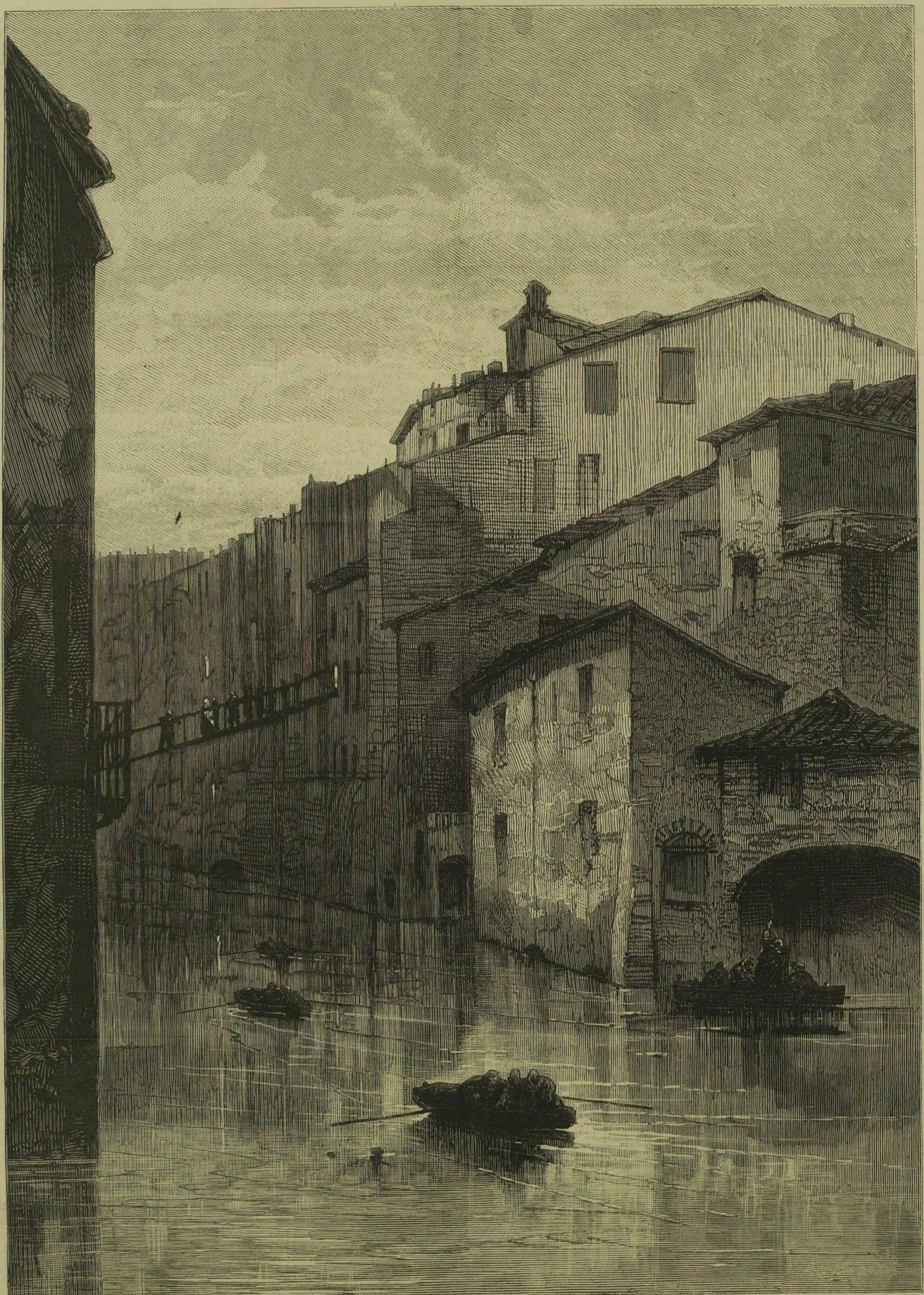
"EIGHT BELLS: THE BOY AT THE HELM."

Mr. Macallum's pictures of coast life are always fresh and vigorous, suggestive of sea breezes, rippling waves, and flashing sunlight. Though generally simple in subject, they are never commonplace, because, however humble the theme, the artist's skilful hand invests it with a special interest by the purity of his colouring and his masterly management of light and shade. The successful rendering of the effect of light is always a feature in Mr. Macallum's pictures, a quality only to be acquired by painting in the open air. The present example was in the winter exhibition of sketches and studies in oil in the Dudley Gallery just closed.

Lord Monck has become a member of the board of directors of the Dublin National Bank, in room of Mr. Macnamara.

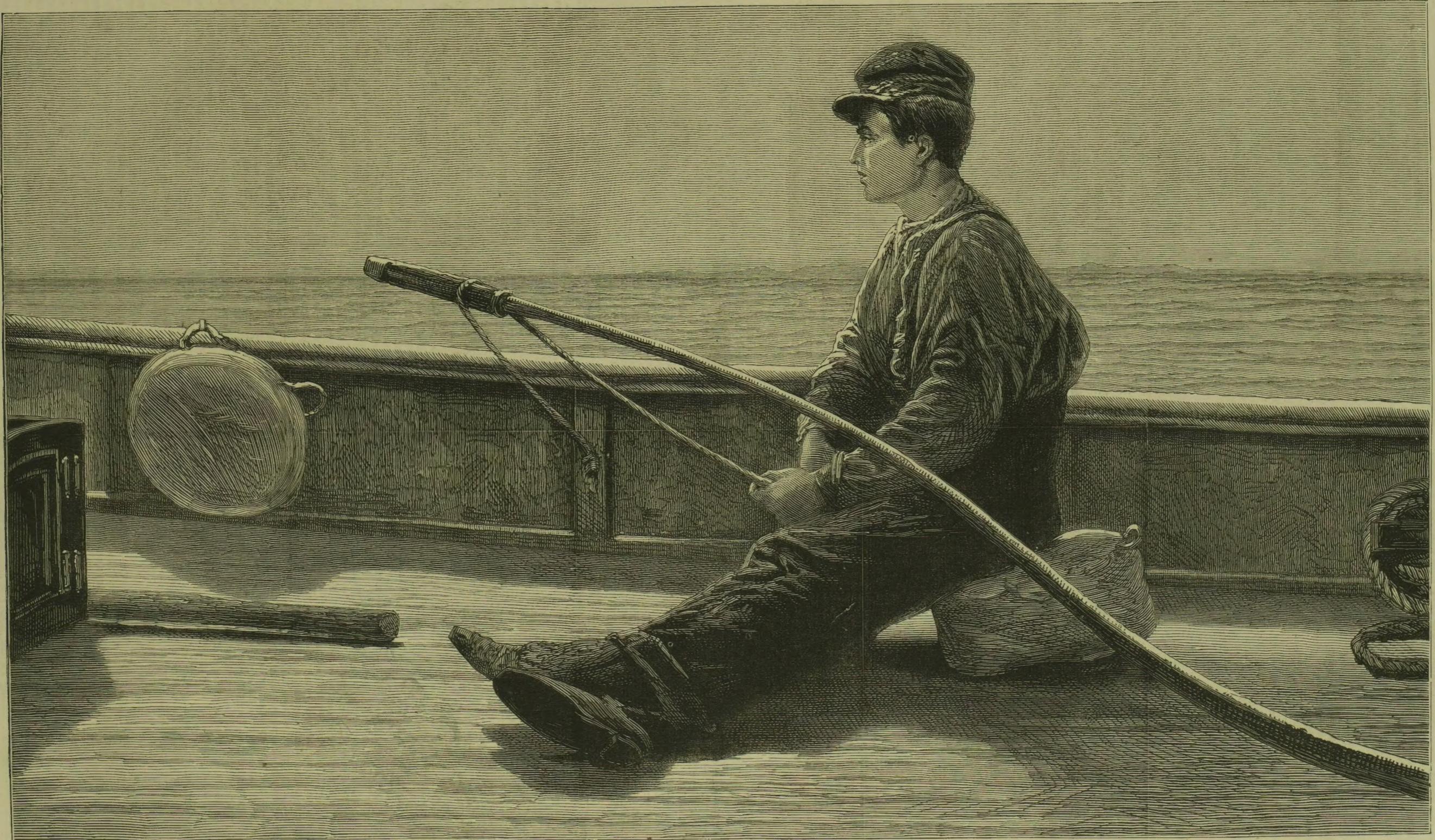
New and stringent regulations, similar to those which govern the Royal Arsenal cartridge factories and the public works and magazines at Waltham Abbey and elsewhere, are to be put in force on and after the 1st of January, for ensuring safety during the manufacture, removal, and storage of gunpowder, dynamite, and other explosives.

A statue of the late Mr. Graves, M.P., was unveiled in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, on Wednesday, by the Home Secretary. In the course of his remarks upon the occasion Mr. Cross passed an eloquent eulogium upon the deceased. He referred to his honesty of purpose, far-sighted judgment, courteous manner, and kindly feeling, and remarked that few men entering Parliament so late as Mr. Graves did ever win the same influence in the House of Commons.



INUNDATIONS AT ROME: THE GHETTO SUBMERGED.

FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.



"EIGHT BELLS: THE BOY AT THE HELM." BY H. MACALLUM.
IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE DUDLEY GALLERY.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

Everybody knows that diverting romance, "Chrysal; or, The Adventures of a Guinea." Most of us have read Douglas Jerrold's "Story of a Feather," and now and again I come across, in children's books, the fancied autobiography of a Skye-terrier or of a doll. If I might suggest an addition to the library of lives of inanimate objects, it would be "The Ups and Downs of a Statue, written by himself"—"himself" being Napoleon I., sometime Emperor of the French and King of Italy, styled the "Great." The French Government have just replaced on the summit of the column in the Place Vendôme the Napoleonic effigy brutally and stupidly hauled down, with the pillar itself, by the mad Communists on May 17, 1871. For a time there had been considerable hesitation in the official mind as to how the restored monument should be terminated. In some quarters a simple tricoloured flag was suggested; in others—the proposal is attributed to the Prince de Joinville or to the Duc D'Aumale—it was thought that the characteristic statue of a French soldier would best crown the work; but the Cæsarian idea has been in the long run triumphant; and the hero of Austerlitz once more dominates the Place Vendôme.

It was a work of immense labour to hoist the huge mass of bronze up to its lofty pedestal; and the principal operations, curiously enough, seem to have been conducted during the small hours. The engineers sent to the Grand Opera for supplies of the limelight to work by; but M. Halanzier could not spare the necessary apparatus. A similar application was made to the manager of the Odéon, but with equal want of success. Thus from five p.m. till nearly dawn the work of raising the statue went on in almost total darkness. Men: Does not this circumstance seem to suggest a shadowy parallel to the burial of Sir John Moore at Corunna? It is a parallel, in a converse sense of course; but were I a versifier I would attempt a paraphrase of the Rev. Charles Wolfe's exquisite poem, and tell how the effigy of the hero of Austerlitz was raised from the abyss of ruin "at dead of night," and how he was left "alone with his glory." Would that most facile and graceful of versifiers Mr. Mortimer Collins oblige us with such a poem?

There are yet two or three little "echoes" connected with this work of rehabilitation in Paris which I may be permitted to enshrine in print. The signal for the process of hoisting the statue was the waving of a white handkerchief by the chief engineer of the Ministry of Public Works; but this signal, which should have been given at four p.m., was delayed for a few minutes, in order to enable a photographer stationed at one of the windows of the Etat Major to fix the whole scene with camera and collodion. The two guardians of the column were ordered to stand at attention in front of the railing surrounding the column, so as to form the foreground to the picture; and one of the custodians happens to have been Sergeant Hoff, the celebrated artilleryman of the siege of Paris, who was first overpraised for his patriotism in pointing cannon against Prussians; who was next vehemently suspected of being a Prussian spy, and was virulently persecuted in consequence; but his loyalty to the Republic having now been unquestionably established, he has been promoted by a grateful country to be chief janitor of the Vendôme Column. One of Marshal MacMahon's aides-de-camp was present during the whole of the operations; and so soon as they were successfully terminated he hastened to convey the news to the Elysée. Among the few spectators gathered round the workmen was M. de Ganay, lately an attaché of the French Legation at Washington, and who, while at New York, was lucky enough to purchase, for the sum of £40, a mass of old bronze covered with bas-reliefs, which turned out to be a portion of the column overthrown by the Communists. He joyfully sent the fragments back to France, where it materially aided the work of restoration. In the right hand of Napoleon there is a statuette of Victory in bronze, and silvered by the electric process. This last is not a restoration, but an entirely new production: the statuette having wholly disappeared after May 17; and the only guide the modeller of the new statuette could discover was a microscopic figure on a medal struck in 1810, when the monument was first erected to the "glory of Napoleon and the Grand Army."

The Lady Mayoress, I perceive, has issued invitations for a "children's calico fancy-dress ball," to be held at the Mansion House on Twelfth Night, 1876. In answer to inquiries, the daily newspapers have been requested to state "that any characteristic fancy dress that can be made in silk or velvet may be reproduced in cotton fabrics, which embrace cretonnes, velveteens, sateens, &c." To these I may be allowed to add corduroy. I should like to see Joan of Arc in corduroy. Again, the Press are informed that adult lady and gentleman guests may wear fancy dresses or the contrary, at their pleasure; "but if a fancy costume be worn it must be of a calico material. Herein there is a slight confusion of terms. Sateen, velveteen, coarse muslin, fustian, dimities, and calico are all varieties of the cotton manufacture; thus the bountiful Lady Mayoress's prettily-imagined festival should, in strict accuracy, be called a "Cotton Ball." But in the United States there still take place "calico balls," which really deserve that characteristic appellation. The ball begins at nine o'clock at night. The gentlemen are clad in ordinary evening costume; while the ladies wear, by a Medean and Persian law, calico dresses, printed or plain white as they choose, but always high in the neck and long in the sleeves. Not a diamond bracelet, not a pearl necklace is visible. Dancing continues till twelve, when supper is served; but just before the stroke of midnight the lady of the house gives a signal by clapping her hands. Some mysterious strings are untied; some occult hooks and eyes are divorced; and, hey, presto! off go, with lightning swiftness, all the calico dresses, which are immediately gathered up and removed by attendant "helps;" and the ladies appear radiant in silk, satin, and gauze, their wrists encircled with brilliants "which Jews might prize and infidels adore," and with necklaces of orient pearl around their pearly necks. Such a calico ball might prove diverting when the fashionable world has grown tired of skating-rinks.

I was reading the other day an admirably discriminative and exhaustive review in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of a recent edition of Paley's "Natural Theology," an English classic wellnigh imitable for the force of its arguments and the clearness of its dictio. But the reviewer did not seem to be aware that this famous production of Archdeacon Paley is little more than an abstract, with a running commentary, of a work written long years before by a learned Dutchman, named Bernard Nieuwentyt. This sage, towards the close of the seventeenth century, put forth in his native language a book, which was subsequently translated into French and German. Mr. Chamberlayne, a Fellow of the Royal Society, printed an English version of the work, under the title of the "Religious Philosopher," in the year 1718, and it was not till 1802 that Paley's "Natural Theology" was published. "Many must remember," wrote the late Mr. Robert Chambers, "the exquisite gratification experienced when reading for the first

time the admirably interesting illustration of the watch. Alas! that watch was stolen, shamefully stolen, from Bernard Nieuwentyt, and unblushingly vended as his own by William Paley." The Dutchman finds the watch in the middle of a sandy down, a desert, or solitary place; the Englishman finds the watch on a heath; and they proceed to describe the mechanism of the object in almost precisely identical terms. And so on throughout the book.

Lord Dufferin, most popular of Governors-General that the Dominion of Canada has ever known, has submitted to the Town Council of Quebec a grandiose scheme for the improvement and embellishment of the ancient and quaintly picturesque city. The scheme includes the arching over the city gates and flanking them with handsome Norman turrets, and the formation of a number of new boulevards, public squares, and pleasure-grounds. I wonder what has become of one of the most grimly interesting antiquities of Quebec—the mysterious "Cage de Fer." This was a tall post, from the summit of which was suspended an iron cage, the bars of which bore a dim resemblance to a human figure. The oldest inhabitant of Quebec, French or English, could afford no clue as to when this strange monument had been set up or for what purpose it had been erected; until at length, a few years since, an erudite Canadian antiquary, searching the judicial archives of the colony, discovered that shortly after our capture of the Canadas a Frenchwoman, named Marie Joseph Corriveau, had been condemned to the gallows for the cruel murder of her husband, and was subsequently hanged in chains. It was for the purpose of suspending the corpse of the murderer that the "Cage de Fer" had been devised, and it is instructive to bear in mind that such a ghastly gibbet, quite unknown to French judicial procedure, was among the first of the "institutions" with which Great Britain endowed the dependency which the valour of Wolfe had conquered for her.

With deep grief I record the loss of my old and beloved friend, Augustus Mayhew, who died at Richmond on Christmas Day, in the fiftieth year of his age. He was the seventh and youngest of the singularly-gifted Brothers Mayhew. Thomas, the eldest, one of the founders of cheap popular literature; Alfred, who succeeded his father as chief of a firm of well-known London solicitors; Edward, the author of the "Horse's Mouth," the "Illustrated Horse Doctor," and other standard works on veterinary science; Horace, the genial contributor to *Punch*, have all passed away. Augustus has followed his four kinsmen; and Henry, the famous author of "Labour and the Poor," with Julius, who was trained to the profession of an architect under the late Sir William Tite, alone survive of that bright band of brothers—all sons of Anak, physically strong and handsome, and all replete with intellectual or artistic talent. Augustus Mayhew was a delightful writer, a cheerful, kindly humourist, and a most generous, single-hearted, and amiable man. To him I dedicated, nearly twenty years ago, a book of mine, called "Twice Round the Clock," and little did I think that I should survive my dear old friend.

G. A. S.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURE.

ELECTRIC ATTRACTION AND CONDUCTION.

Professor Tyndall began a course of six lectures on Frictional Electricity, adapted to a juvenile auditory, on Tuesday last. After alluding to the proposition of the Christmas course fifty years ago, the first having been given by Faraday in 1827, he expressed his wish to show in the present course how the facts and principles of frictional electricity may be illustrated and explained by simple, inexpensive apparatus. He then briefly noticed the progress of our knowledge of the subject. For more than two thousand years the only known fact was the attraction of light bodies by rubbed amber ("electron," in Greek); but in 1600 Dr. Gilbert showed that gems, stones, glass, resins, and many other bodies possess the same power as amber. Robert Boyle, in 1675, proved that suspended rubbed amber is itself attracted by other rubbed bodies. Otto von Guericke, the inventor of the air-pump, obtained electric power from rubbed sulphur, and the Academy del Cimento made still further advances, proving that smoke is attracted, but not flame, and that a little eminence is formed on the surface of liquids, when subjected to electric attraction. Sir Isaac Newton, by rubbing a flat glass, caused light bodies to jump between it and the table; and Dr. Wall demonstrated flannel to be the best rubber for amber. Dr. Tyndall then commented on the great importance of the art of experiment, which can only be acquired satisfactorily by patient repetition. "By so doing," said he, "you will come into direct contact with natural truth; you will think and reason, not upon what has been said to you in books, but on what has been said to you by nature. Thought springing to you from this source has a vitality not derivable from mere book knowledge." He then placed before his auditors very simple apparatus, such as sticks of sealing-wax, glass tubes, a fox's brush, pieces of clean flannel, and silk ribbon; and he showed how a delicate electroscope may be made by a piece of straw, supported by a sewing-needle inserted in a stick of sealing-wax attached to a tin plate; and also exhibited the manufacture of the amalgam spread on silk-rubbers to render them more efficacious. This was succeeded by numerous examples of electric attraction produced by sealing-wax, gutta-percha, and other bodies rubbed with flannel, and by glass rubbed with silk. A jet of sand passing through a funnel, oil in a watch-glass, an umbrella balanced in a wire cradle, and even a boy placed on a balanced board, were shown to be readily affected by the force of electric attraction. A very simple means of exhibiting this attraction was also given by balancing a lath of wood on an egg, in an egg-cup, the lath being powerfully drawn by an ebonite comb passed through the hair, and by paper rubbed by indiarubber. Such electrified paper adhered to a warmed board. The latter part of the lecture was devoted to electric conduction, discovered by Stephen Gray in 1729. When experimenting upon a glass tube stopped with cork, he observed that the cork attracted light bodies when the glass was rubbed; and, on proceeding, he found that not only a stick, but that long pieces of wire, attached to the cork, possessed the same power. He also discovered that silk, when wetted, acquired the power of conducting electricity, which it did not possess when dry. In conclusion, Dr. Tyndall explained the construction of the gold-leaf electroscope, and exhibited its delicate action.

On Wednesday the Leeds board of guardians passed a resolution recommending the Town Council to provide, under powers of the Artisans' Dwellings Act, increased dwelling accommodation for the poor.

Whilst service was being conducted in the parish church of Cherry Burton, a village near Beverley, on Sunday morning, the clock weight came crashing through the belfry roof, and alighted on a young girl, housemaid at the rectory, who was injured beyond hope of recovery. A young man sitting by her was also hurt severely. The two injured persons were to have been married next day.

NEW BOOKS.

Amid the continual torrent of more or less ephemeral literature hurrying down to the great ocean of oblivion there is occasionally seen some solid mass which is arrested in its course, hard by the tree of knowledge, where it remains immovable, and becomes a serviceable stepping-stone for whoever would mount the tree and eat of the fruit thereof. Such a solid mass is *A History of English Dramatic Literature*, by Adolphus William Ward, M.A. (Macmillan and Co.). The two sturdy volumes, packed as full as they can well hold of information and criticism, contain an exhaustive survey of our dramatic literature from its origin to the death of Queen Anne, exhaustive so far as it affords every student and every aspirant after literary culture as much guidance and as much light as the most exacting of them can require for the furtherance of their earnest studies or their mere elegant dalliance, as regards a certain branch and a certain period of our literature. It is not too much to assert that, were all other branches and all other periods of that literature treated upon the same scale, a modern Methuselah would be provided with reading, if he had anything else to do, for the term of his natural life. The work has small pretensions to brilliancy and attractiveness of style, and it is somewhat exasperatingly overlaid with interruptive foot-notes; but it is a remarkable example of a labour of love performed with unsparing diligence, unostentatious erudition, excellent judgment, scrupulous care, conscientious completeness. It is more like a section of a very elaborate encyclopædia than anything else; and its usefulness as a book of reference is enhanced by a copious index. The author begins from the very beginning. He explains in his introduction that "dramatic literature is that form of literary composition which accommodates itself to the demands of an art whose method is *imitation in the way of action*" (adopting Donaldson's translation of Aristotle's expression); that "speech or writing not designed to be employed as part of an imitation in the way of action is to be altogether excluded from the domain of the drama;" and that, as Ben Jonson observed, "before the grammarians or philosophers found out their laws, there were many excellent poets that fulfilled them." In fact, the critics, grammarians, and the like no more make the laws of poetry, whether dramatic, epic, lyric, or any other, than the astronomers make the rules which are obeyed by the heavenly bodies; but, in both cases, observation results in the formation of a code to which all stars, whether celestial or terrestrial, whether planets or poets, must adhere, at the risk, otherwise, of being considered of inappreciable magnitude, or abnormal, eccentric, meteoric, and, perhaps, extinguishable. The reader, with a mind prepared by some such preliminary hints and warnings, is then invited to enter upon a learned discussion as to "the main source of the modern drama," and is informed that "it is to be sought in a popular outgrowth of religious worship;" and that, "though the dramatic literature of the ancients is in no sense the main source of that of the moderns, there are links of connection between the two which are not to be lost sight of from first to last," and which, "influenced the future of the modern drama while it was yet unborn." We are thus led on by gradual stages from the "liturgy of the mass," with its "dramatic action, in part pantomimically presented, in part aided by both epical and lyrical elements," to the time when the drama began to emancipate itself from the Church and professional players, independent of ecclesiastical patronage, undertook to instruct and amuse the people, and we are ultimately landed among the moralities, pageants, masks, and whatever else tended to found the regular English drama under its twofold aspect of tragedy and comedy. The beginnings of that regular drama are treated with a minuteness of detail which leaves little or nothing to be desired—names, dates, and specimens being provided with a liberal hand and yet with scrupulous care. We are next introduced to those who, with acknowledged but perfectly justifiable inaccuracy, are termed Shakespeare's predecessors, though they may have been rather his contemporaries, and who, from Lylly to Anthony Munday and Michael Drayton, are reviewed, succinctly but sufficiently, in that mingled style of biography, criticism, and illustration which gives to the work its encyclopædical character and makes it so complete a treasury of special information and so valuable an arsenal of facts and commentary. When we come to Shakspeare, whose name, for reasons given, is thus spelt, it would seem as if nothing that innumerable writers, English or foreign, have ever written about him and his works had failed to be collected into the critical sieve and laboriously shaken together until all the rubbish was removed and the remaining heap, a goodly heap, of glittering material assiduously sorted out, arranged, labelled, and described, circumstance by circumstance, play by play, date by date. And the same thing, the proper proportions of importance being observed, may be said of Ben Jonson, Beaumont and Fletcher, Massinger, Ford, and many another dramatist whose very name is but an indistinct memory with all save the specialist, until we pass from Dryden to Wycherley and Congreve, and close the series of comedy-writers with Sir Richard Steele. It is impossible to dip into any part of the work without feeling that you are in the hands of a teacher, whose wide range of reading, thoroughness, high ideal, and sympathetic appreciation of his subject must render the majority, if not the whole, of his readers, respectful and earnest disciples. There is some hope that the same competent author will undertake, if opportunity should offer, a similar review of our dramatic literature from the date at which he has at present suspended his labours down to this day of adaptations and of fitful struggles. It is devoutly to be hoped that such an opportunity may have already occurred.

Dramatic literature can never be mentioned without evoking reminiscences of the great Molière, whose works are being consecutively translated into English by M. Henri Van Laun. The second volume has been published (Edinburgh: William Paterson), and contains English versions of "L'Ecole des Maris," of "Les Fâcheux," of "L'Ecole des Femmes," of "La Critique de l'Ecole des Femmes," of "L'Impromptu de Versailles," and of "Le Mariage Forcé." There are, as before, a few excellent illustrations; and, as before, there are valuable introductory sketches, critical or explanatory notes, and, above all, scenes from English plays in which the writers have imitated, adapted, or pillaged Molière. On reading such scenes immediately after the translation, nobody can fail to notice at how great a sacrifice of liveliness, ease, lucidity, and point the most competent translator, as compared with the merely acquisitive playwright, who borrows ideas and can repudiate all else, must perform his difficult task. One is oppressed by a sense of his responsibility towards his original, lest he should do injustice by the omission or misrepresentation of a single happily-turned phrase or a single telling word; the other cares only to be readily apprehended and cordially relished by his compatriots, whether readers or audience. At the same time, though the translation may not have for the English reader so native a smack and so plain a meaning as the imitative pieces quoted in the appendices, the former will plainly have the advantage over the latter in refinement. The great advantage of the translation is most likely to be found

in making use of it as a silent tutor during a study of the original.

It is scarcely too much to say that the perilously short distance between the sublime and the ridiculous is practically exemplified in the case of *St. George and St. Michael*, by George Mac Donald (Henry S. King and Co.); for, though the story may never quite attain to sublimity, it more than once, or even twice, passes the borders of absurdity. There is no lack of the poetical conception and diction, of the elevated tone, of the moral purity, of the manly tenderness, of the genial humanity, of the somewhat wild fancy, of the somewhat transcendental expression, which are more or less characteristic of the author upon all occasions; but though the story, regarded from the moralist's point of view, may be considered as a nobly depicted example of a noble contest between love and duty, it is by no means calculated to meet the views of ordinary novel-readers, who expect moving incident to be the most prominent feature in a romance relating to such stirring times as those which just preceded the execution of Charles I. It is impossible to read the story under consideration without comparing the author's manner with that in which Sir Walter Scott was accustomed to deal with events, real or fictitious, connected, or supposed to be connected, with the period of the great rebellion. In the present instance a laborious, and no doubt in many respects a successful, effort has been made to reproduce the language as well as the external aspect and divided thought of the epoch; but, though the drawing may be in several parts more correct than that of the older novelist, there is a lack of that wonderful touch which, from the very first, distinguished Royalists from Parliamentarians as plainly as if we both saw and heard them in the flesh, and which made it impossible, from the opening to the closing page, to forget the sharp line of separation between cavalier and roundhead, whether the former were a swaggering, roystering blade, or anything else up to a king's gentleman, and whether the latter were a canting, snuffing hypocrite and cut-throat, or anything else up to a parliament's gentleman. There is a lack, too, of that physical energy which the older novelist managed to infuse into his scenes of love, war, and adventure; and such scenes are themselves but few and far between. The older novelist again seldom or never commits the mistake, a mistake so far as the gaining of popularity and the sustaining of interest are concerned, of talking over the heads of the most moderately-cultivated readers and of substituting the subtle, ingenious, and fanciful for the simply natural, whereas the younger novelist produces an impression of artificiality in the characters, the dialogue, and the incidents; this impression is very early and very forcibly created by the little piece of heroics introduced solely, as some people will think, to supply and explain a somewhat far-fetched title. As for the wit and humour, which in the older novelist are appropriate, spontaneous, and irresistible, they are in the younger novelist, whether they take the form of pun or of something better, uncongenial, laboured, and ponderous. The fact is that "*St. George and St. Michael*," to be properly appreciated, must be read for its descriptions, its gleams of poetical light, its moral beauty, its liberality, its manliness mingled with tenderness, and its womanliness modified by a stern sense of duty. The backbone of the story is composed of two or three bits of fact extracted from published works; and, perchance, the process of junction has made the whole structure weakish, though the several portions may of themselves be not only sound but of a very superior kind. The sketches of Raglan Castle and of the life therein are for the most part admirable, and here and there full of sweetness, prettiness, and pathos. They do not, however, promote the action and business of the story. The same objection is likely to be made by the sanguine novel-reader, whose heart is sure to be set upon the fate of the lovers beyond all else, to the greater part of what relates to the inventions of the famous mechanical genius, the Marquis of Worcester. It is magnificent, perhaps, but it is not war either between love and destiny or between Royalists and Parliamentarians; it is less adapted for the pages of a romance than for a lecture at the Polytechnic. But there is reason to believe that the author, so far as he is personally concerned, would be content to have succeeded as a thoughtful writer rather than as a skilful weaver of a tale that is told.

NEW ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

One of the best of books, to every English mind, is the *Plays of Shakespeare*; and the splendidly printed edition of these, expressly illustrated by Mr. H. C. Selous with a large number of spirited designs, is one of those many noble gifts of the publisher which Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin have bestowed on the English people. We now possess, from their new issue, the first volume of this work, consisting of 700 pages of clear strong type, on thick and fine paper of an agreeable creamy tint, held in a firm and solid binding of green cloth, with handsome gold ornamentation. It contains all Shakespeare's comedies, edited by Mr. and Mrs. Cowden Clarke, that faithful, cheerful, veteran, comical pair of accomplished English literary scholars, who still form a connecting link of personal affection between the present age and the generation of Charles Lamb, of Coleridge, of Keats, of Campbell, and of Leigh Hunt. Those who can remember Mr. Cowden Clarke's lectures on Shakespeare a quarter of a century ago, or who are acquainted with Mrs. Cowden Clarke's useful "Concordance," and her studies of the female characters in Shakespeare's plays, will appreciate the value of their guidance through the sometimes uncertain text, and unfamiliar allusions, of our greatest poet. Their concise notes at the foot of each page, never superfluous or void of profit, seem to us far more convenient than a lengthy introduction or following commentary, which only impedes the digestion of Shakespeare's glowing and living conceptions, like a quart of cold water swallowed immediately before and after a hearty good dinner. We shall not, however, add another word of commendation, as the merits of this edition should now be sufficiently known; and, though a rather costly book, in its present grand and substantial form, the high character of its publishers is a sure guarantee for its being amply worth the price. The second volume will comprise Shakespeare's historical plays; and in the third volume we shall have Shakespeare's tragedies, with the editor's preface and a life of Shakespeare. Is it not better to purchase all these, in the finest and fittest shape they can wear, than to spend an equal sum in buying half a dozen small volumes of ephemeral literature? We counsel both men and women, old and young, to desist from the vain and weary effort of reading all that is put forth as new; and to apply their leisure, with more deliberate intent and fuller relish, to that which has of old been approved in our national inheritance of richest poetry and prose. The English Bible, the English Shakespeare, and the half-told tale of English history should be thoroughly taken into the mind of every person amongst us, whatever else be left unstudied; and these alone will be enough to build up the mind in its fair stature of thought and feeling.

We have acknowledged, in mere justice, the great and varied benefits which Messrs. Cassell's publications have already conferred upon their countrymen in presenting these and other indispensable books with such added attractions and aids to their perusal. Their *Illustrated History of England*, in more than a hundred serial parts, forming nine volumes, which bring on the narrative to the year 1872, is now in course of republication. A first volume has lately been completed of their *Illustrated History of the United States*, in which the author, Mr. Edmund Ollier, who also wrote their History of the War between France and Germany, exerts the same high powers of vivid conception and clear description, with the same generous consideration for humanity and the same graceful strength of style. This volume, beginning with the English colonisation of North America under Elizabeth, ends with the Conquest of Canada in the middle of the last century; so that the second volume must open with the quarrel upon fiscal policy between George III.'s Ministers, from 1763 to 1775, and the sturdy champions of colonial self-government. Another work, of peculiar interest to us as Englishmen, published by Messrs. Cassell, is *Old and New London, Illustrated*, the third volume of which, by Mr. Edward Walford, has now appeared, Mr. Walter Thornbury having compiled the preceding volumes. This portion of the work, a sort of antiquarian historical or anecdotal perambulation of the whole of London, conducts the reader westward of Temple Bar, along the Strand, with excursions into Lincoln's-inn-fields and Drury-lane, Covent-garden, St. Giles's, and Soho, down Whitehall, to Westminster Hall, Abbey, School, and Palace, giving abundant notices of literary, national, and personal interests or events of importance associated with those familiar places. The woodcuts are very numerous, and, though one has seen most of them before, it is well to have them so gathered up in this connection. The enterprising firm in La Belle Sauvage-yard seem determined to produce original and complete histories of every branch and part of the English nation, and of its colonies or settlements all over the world. They have just issued the first monthly instalment of *Cassell's History of India, Illustrated*, a work resembling in its form and plan the "History of the United States." It is, more strictly described, a history of the British Empire in India, beginning with the establishment of the Old East India Company, in the last year of the sixteenth century, while the second chapter relates the founding of the settlement at Calcutta, in the reign of William III. A fine lithographed portrait of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is given with this first monthly part.

The list of Cassell's new and important literary undertakings, with copious illustrations, is to be yet farther extended. We have also before us the first volume of a *History of Protestantism*, by the Rev. Dr. J. A. Wylie, which seems to be conceived in no harsh or intolerant spirit of theological antipathy, but to aim at the fair and truthful exposition of acknowledged facts, while it maintains a frank and steadfast adherence to the principles of evangelical religion, and to the rights of freedom in matters of faith and conscience. It begins with the adoption of Christianity by the Roman Empire under Constantine; and we arrive, in this volume, at the Diet of Augsburg in 1530, where Luther's partisans confronted the Emperor Charles V., and then solemnly recorded their protest, supported by a large part of the German nation, against the abuses and errors of the Roman Papacy. One section or "book" of this history is occupied with John Wycliffe and his immediate followers, in the fourteenth century; another treats of the Lollards and the Church Reform agitation under the Kings of the House of Lancaster. The Reformation in the reign of Henry VIII. will be narrated in the second volume.

With all this store of provision for solid historical knowledge and sound literary culture, the pleasurable diversion of youngsters is not despised or forgotten by Messrs. Cassell, who have sent forth, as a Christmas or New-Year's gift for boys and girls, the *Arabian Nights' Entertainments*, revised and annotated by Mr. James Mason, the text based upon the agreeable old French version, with numerous illustrations. After all, and with due gratitude to such modern writers as Hans Andersen, and such skilful collectors as the Brothers Grimm, we like no stories of the marvellous kind, for mere amusement, much better than those of the *Arabian Nights*. This volume is a rich storehouse of fanciful wonders, which ought to last boy or girl at least a twelvemonth; and it may even beguile a lazy hour, after the work of the day, for some elder folk who are not too proud to enjoy this simple gratification.

But there are not a few to whom the contemplation of a purer style of art, and of a different kind—we mean in pictures rather than in fabled narratives—affords the needed refreshment, and for such a refined taste the same publishers have made some preparation in an elegant volume called *Art Studies of Home Life*. This contains twenty-five Woodbury photographs of pictures by eminent British artists—Landseer, Webster, Leslie, Collins, Ward, Macleish, Mulready, and others, one of Sir Joshua's, and one portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence, with a literary accompaniment by Mr. Godfrey Turner. The permanent reproductions seem to us better defined and nicer in effect than some others we have seen; and Mr. Turner's account of the Woodbury process may have interest for many readers. There is, by the way, a translation of the "History and Handbook of Photography," by Mr. J. Thomson, from the French of M. Tissandier, which Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. have just brought out. The reputation of Mr. Thomson, as a skilful, artistic, and scientific photographer, and, as an experienced traveller in the Eastern Asiatic Archipelago, should invite attention to anything from his hand.

We remember, some twelvemonth ago, noticing with approval, and rather admiring, Mr. F. E. Hulme's treatise on "Plants, Their Natural Growth and Ornamental Treatment." It seemed to us likely to render most valuable assistance, more especially to a student or connoisseur of decorative art; for it is, after all, from the endless variety of beautiful forms in the vegetable kingdom that ideas can most readily be obtained; and, in order to appreciate these forms, it is important to learn the physiological laws of their growth, and their botanical modifications. It is true that other natural forms, such as those of crystals and shells, might be consulted by the inventor of artistic designs with almost equal advantage. Mr. Hulme, in his new work, *Principles of Ornamental Art* (Cassell) has chiefly applied himself to the analysis of geometrical designs, and to the examination, critical and historical, of all those which have a symbolic origin and significance, including those of heraldry or blazonry. His discussion of these subjects is learned and profound, as well as tasteful; and the illustrations, of which there are four or five hundred, have considerable value in that point of view. The volume of Mr. P. G. Hamerton's finely illustrated art-journal *The Portfolio*, published by Messrs. Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday, has more than a periodical interest. Its folio page illustrations, consisting of fine etchings, facsimile engravings by the "photogravure" process, woodcuts, and photographic autotypes, are specimens of reproductive art which have a very high degree of merit. They are mostly the work of eminent French per-

formers in each department respectively. The literary portion of the contents is worthy of Mr. Hamerton's accomplished editorial direction. In a little practical treatise by Mr. R. P. Leitch, *A Course of Painting in Neutral Tint*, with illustrations, will be found the instruction desirable for amateurs who prefer sepia and greys, mixed with lake and indigo or cobalt and sienna, to water colours for drawing. The studies are here done in sepia, with a single grey tint.

Several of the illustrated publications deserving to be recommended yet remain upon our table. *Wild Flowers of the Holy Land* (James Nisbet and Co.) has a title which speaks for itself, when we testify that it is not metaphorical, but is literally descriptive of the contents of the volume, and that these are very true to nature and very beautiful. It consists, indeed, of fifty-four coloured plates, drawn and painted after nature by a lady residing at Nazareth, Mrs. Hannah Zeller, of the flowers commonly found growing in that district of Palestine where our Lord and Saviour lived some thirty years, and saw them blossom, year after year, and loved to see them, as He told his disciples, because they were the Father's work. The introduction, written by the Rev. Canon Tristram, a well-known traveller in the Holy Land, and the preface by Mr. E. Atkinson, of the Linnean Society, attest the genuineness of these drawings, which ought surely, for the reasons above suggested, to have an especial interest. We must reserve, as demanding some time for its reading, and as a substantial account of travels, the book of "a Lady Pioneer," illustrated by herself, called *The Indian Alps, and How we Crossed Them* (Longmans), which looks very inviting, both in subject and in style. A performance not unsuitable, perhaps, to this rollicking season of juvenile and domestic festivity, but extremely nonsensical for all that, is the *Ridiculous Rediviva* of Mr. J. E. Rogers (Macmillan and Co.), now once more "Rediviva." It consists of his quaint and queer designs for the old nursery tales, printed in blazing colours by Messrs. Clay, Sons, and Taylor. *A Trip to Music Land*, by Miss Emma L. Shedlock (Blackie and Son), is an allegorical romance, designed to lead the student pleasantly through an analysis of the system of musical notation, with all the periods and intervals, the clefs and chords, and divisions of time and tone. This amiable didactic fiction is illustrated with twenty clever designs, by Mr. J. King James. The authoress is a teacher of music. Last and least in dignity, we commend to the mother or nurse of any small baby-boy who is suspected of wanting to be a soldier the military alphabet of Surgeon-Major Scanlan. It is entitled *A to Z; or, Twenty-six Notes on a Soldier's Trumpet* (Houghton and Gunn).

We are informed that *Tom: Seven Years Old*, which, with a previous work by the same writer, was favourably noticed in our last Number, is not by a gentleman, as we assumed it to be, the author being Miss H. Rutherford Russell.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

Messrs. Chappell and Co. have lately issued four charming songs by the late Sir W. Sterndale Bennett, the last of his productions of that class. They are entitled, respectively, "Maiden mine," "Sunset," "Dancing lightly," and "Stay, my charmer." Each is impressed with that melodic grace and refinement of style that so peculiarly characterise Bennett's music, and the publication of the entire set cannot fail to meet with a large acceptance. Of the songs individually we have before spoken in reference to their concert performance.

Among other recent publications of vocal music by Messrs. Chappell and Co. are the fine song by Bach, "Willst du dein Herz," with an English text adapted by Mr. J. Bennett (forming No. 30 of the "Repertoire of the Monday Popular Concerts"); "The Passing Bell" and "There's light at Eventide," two pleasing songs, in the sentimental style, by Mr. Berthold Tours; and "The little tin soldier," No. 1 of a characteristic set of "Songs from Hans Andersen," by Mr. J. L. Molloy.

A minut and rocco, by Cotsford Dick, are two piano-forte pieces of well-marked individuality in their respective styles. These are also issued by Messrs. Chappell, as likewise are some effective quadrilles by D'Albert, entitled "Trial by Jury" (based on subjects from Mr. Arthur Sullivan's dramatic cantata); a spirited set of waltzes, "Sweethearts," by the same (based on Mr. A. Sullivan's song), and another set, by M. D'Albert, named "Fascination." For juvenile quadrille-players Messrs. Chappell have provided two attractive, although easy, sets, arranged by Dr. Rimbaud, and respectively entitled "The Young Soldier" and "The Young Sailor." These are based on popular airs of a military and a nautical character.

Messrs. Enoch and Sons (of Holles-street) have recently largely extended their collection of classical piano-forte music known as the "Litoff Edition." Most of the classical works of the great masters—Bach, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Clementi, Dussek, Hummel, &c.—have been for some time published in this convenient quarto size at extremely low prices. Recent additions to this valuable series are the charming twenty-five preludes (pp. 28 and 45) of Chopin, and the "Album pour Piano" of Robert Schumann, comprising his "Album für die Jugend" (op. 68) and "Kinderszenen" (op. 15). The engraving and printing are excellent. Although so much is comprised in such small compass, the size of the note and the brightness of the ink render the music easily legible, even to a near-sighted player.

Mr. Henry Smart's song, "Bloom Fairy Rose"—published by Messrs. Duncan Davison and Co.—is full of melodic charm and grace of style, with an accompaniment that, simple as it is, shows the hand of the refined and cultivated musical artist. The same publishers have issued a set of six very pleasing songs by the late Mr. F. Mori. These consist of settings of lines by Moore, Tennyson, Shelley, Leigh Hunt, Mr. Morris, and Shakespeare, all of which are characterised by refinement and true appreciation of the text. Other agreeable vocal pieces by Mr. Mori—from the same publishers—are: "Breathe, oh! breathe that simple strain," "I will call upon the Lord" (with the added Latin words of "Ave Maria"); a setting of Victor Hugo's lines, "Si je n'étais captive," and "Ah! se tu fossi meco," a barcarolle. The same firm also publishes Mr. Wilford Morgan's telling ballads, "Oh, would I were a boy again" and "Tell me, am I fair?" Mr. Crouch's effective song, "I am thine;" a pleasing serenade, "My lady sleeps," by Ignace Gibone, besides various piano-forte pieces. Among these latter are a charming mazurka by Chopin (a posthumous work), edited by Sir Julius Benedict; Herr Carl Krebs's "Ten Daily Studies"—a valuable series of exercises on various forms of mechanism—and three brilliant and spirited valse de salon, by the late Vincent Wallace, who was a highly-skilled pianist (and violinist) as well as a successful composer.

Mr. T. C. Cobbold (Conservative) and Mr. William Newton (Liberal) were nominated on Wednesday for the representation of Ipswich. The polling is fixed for Saturday (to-day).



BURNING OF THE TRAINING-SHIP GOLIATH.



EKAS, BENGAL PRESIDENCY.

FROM A SKETCH BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.



THE TOWNHALL, CALCUTTA.

BURNING OF THE GOLIATH.

A brief account was given in our issue last week of the destruction by fire of this vessel on Wednesday, Dec. 22. Through the excellent conduct of those who had charge of the boys, and of the boys themselves—thanks to the admirable way in which they had been disciplined—the consequences, though painful enough, were not at all so terrible as might reasonably have been feared.

The Goliath was a vessel of the Royal Navy, lent by the Admiralty to the Forest-gate district board of managers for the training of pauper boys from an association of metropolitan parishes according to a system established when Mr. Goschen was First Lord of the Admiralty. She was moored in the estuary of the Thames, off the village of Grays, having on board more than 400 boys, and was commanded by Staff Commander Bourchier, of the Royal Navy, and a large staff of subordinate officers. On Wednesday morning, last week, shortly before eight o'clock, a fire broke out in the lamp-room on the main deck. There is no doubt this was caused by the dropping of one of the lamps, which were at the time being extinguished and carried into the lamp-room to be cleaned and retrimmed for future use. A boy named Loeben, charged with this duty, dropped one of the lamps, which, unfortunately, had not been extinguished. The oil which was spilt caught fire at once, and the flames quickly spread over the floor of the lamp-room, which was saturated with oil. Loeben, with great promptitude and courage, tore off his coat, and, throwing it on the flames, sat down on it, in the hope, which soon proved unavailing, of extinguishing them. The fire was at once reported to Mr. Hall, the chief officer; and to Captain Bourchier, and though the fire bell was rung immediately, and the boys rushed to their stations and pumps on the lower deck without confusion or delay, yet the fire had spread all over the main deck even before the bell had ceased ringing. Nevertheless, the boys stuck to their work on the lower deck till the fire began to reach them. The boats, most of which were hanging from the upper deck, could scarcely be reached on account of the flames, and it would have been almost impossible to lower them with safety, as the falls at one end or the other had in most cases been burnt through, and they were consequently hanging end on to the water. The boys had to save themselves by jumping into the water from the ports and decks. Unfortunately, a fresh breeze was blowing at the time, and this not only fanned the flames through the open ports, but chilled the water and rendered swimming difficult. Happily, nearly all the boys had been taught to swim, and, as the vessel was not above a thousand feet from the shore, many managed to reach the land unaided. Others were picked up in boats, but fifteen of the boys are missing, though only five are up to this time known to be dead. Unfortunately, there is too much reason to believe that one of the teachers, named Wheeler, has also been drowned. He disappeared from a boat which capsized as he jumped into it, and, though its other occupants seem to have been picked up, he has not since been heard of. Captain Bourchier was the last to leave his ship; and his wife and daughters, with two female servants, who were on board, owed their escape to their own promptitude and courage. A barge was moored to the ship when the fire broke out, and many of the boys made their way into it; a few of the younger ones, scared by the smoke and the scorching flames, tried to push off from the ship before the barge was full; but an elder boy, named Bolton, whose courage and endurance deserve to be commemorated, held on manfully to the ship till he had taken all on board who were within his reach. Finally, Captain Bourchier and the crew of the boat in which he had been rescued rowed up to the bows, under the blazing rigging, and, at imminent risk of their lives, carried off a little fellow who was seen hanging in the chains. The ship burnt to the water's edge, and drifted from her moorings on to the mud of the river bank. Such is the story of the burning of the Goliath.

By command of her Majesty, a letter has been addressed by Mr. Slater-Booth, the President of the Local Government Board, to Captain Bourchier, R.N., expressing her Majesty's great satisfaction at the admirable conduct displayed by all on board the Goliath.

At the time of our going to press with the early edition no news had reached Grays of any more bodies of Goliath boys having been found, and an anxious look-out is being kept over the parts where it is thought likely any will be swept up by the action of the tides. Those of the survivors who were injured are progressing favourably. Application has been made by the managers for another ship in place of the Goliath; and, as the late ship supplied the wants of all London, it is suggested that the board of management should be selected from a wider area than three East-End parishes, and that the asylums board should take upon itself this function. Several of the past and present managers of the Goliath are upon that board. A committee has been formed to receive subscriptions towards a fund to recoup the officers, who have suffered severe losses by the destruction of their ship.

The Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company and the North Staffordshire Railway Company have agreed—subject to the sanction of their respective shareholders and the authority of Parliament, to be applied for next Session—to amalgamate, on equal terms.

EARL GREY ON OUR DEFENCES.

Earl Grey has published a letter with reference to the scheme for the mobilisation of the Army, in which he insists that no organisation can adequately provide for the safety of the country. His Lordship asserts that it is a delusion to suppose that any of our irregular forces can be relied upon for service in the field. No doubt they would be useful as auxiliaries to our regular Army, especially in the defence of fortified posts, but no reasonable man who will give himself the trouble to consider the facts can suppose that at the beginning of a war, when our danger would be greatest, even the militia could be employed with advantage in field operations against regular troops. The auxiliary forces ought to be excluded from calculation in estimating the number of troops now available for service in the field if an enemy should land upon our shores. For this purpose only the regular Army could safely be relied upon. But it appears from the general annual return of the British Army for 1873 that the average of our total force of all ranks in the United Kingdom during 1873 was only 100,579 men. This is returned as the average effective strength of the Army in the latest year for which we have a detailed account, and does not probably differ materially from its strength at present. After making an allowance for the sick, for recruits either untrained or still too young for the fatigues of actual service, and for men under punishment for civil or military offences, our total available force would be very much under 100,000 men. After providing garrisons for our ports and arsenals, which could not be left entirely to the defence of the militia and volunteers, and after sending the reinforcements which would be indispensable for the present weak garrisons of some of our most important military posts abroad, there would be a very insufficient number of troops remaining to form two movable armies, which would be necessary—one for Great Britain and one for Ireland; much less would it be possible to spare at short notice for embarkation. Earl Grey maintains that there was true wisdom in the recent speech of the Duke of Cambridge, and that it is the duty of her Majesty's Ministers and of Parliament to take early and effectual measures to supply that additional strength to the Army which the Commander-in-Chief plainly considers to be wanting. He believes this could be most conveniently done by temporarily increasing our regimental establishments until an adequate reserve has been formed; and, in order to accomplish this, something should be done to render the service more attractive than it is.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER ON EDUCATION.

In delivering the certificates and prizes awarded to the candidates at the London, Southwark, and Streatham-hill centres, in connection with the Oxford local examinations, last week, in the theatre of the University of London, the Bishop of Exeter said that the work on which they were engaged, considered as a whole, was, of course, of more importance than the success of individuals, and it must be a gratification to all who had anything to do with the system of local examinations to see how it had grown since it had begun in 1868, with a steady, quiet, almost imperceptible growth. In many respects the examination was a very remarkable success, but in none more so than this—a good many of the schools never before, he supposed, had had such plain truths spoken about their work. Defects were unsparingly pointed out, and it was also shown how absolutely necessary it was that they should be corrected, if the work of the schools was to be really worth anything at all. He took a very large share in the first examination conducted by the University of Oxford, and he compared the result to a very badly-baked loaf. All the materials were there—the flour, yeast, and water were good, but the loaf was bad, because it had been badly baked. All that had, to a certain extent, disappeared. There could be no doubt that the schools had succeeded in baking the bread well. The education was now different in quality from what it was; and that was due, no doubt, to the steady persistence of the teachers everywhere in their endeavour to reach that aim which the Universities had always held before them—the aim of thoroughness of knowledge. A competent examiner was, as a general rule, able to detect whether the knowledge had become a real possession, so that it could be used, or whether it had been simply lodged in the mind without the possessor having any real control over it. If the examination of two candidates showed an equal amount of knowledge, acquired by one boy in the course of a year and by the other in three years, it was almost certain that the knowledge which had taken the longer time to acquire was by far the more valuable. There was some danger that the increased skill of the teacher might be a temptation to forget the true end of education—that supply of knowledge which was really of high value, both in itself and for the purposes of the mind. It was said that the buildings erected 400 or 500 years ago were better built than those of the present day—that it was impossible to expect modern buildings, except in very rare instances, to stand as long, and the reason given was the increased skill of the builders. There was the danger, with those examinations before them, that the teachers would use their skill like the builders, and that the learner would know exactly enough

to appear admirably in the examinations, but that from the day he passed the knowledge would begin to fade out of his mind. Education should be spread over a sufficient number of years to let the scholar really take it in, and it would be much better to sacrifice some of the subjects of study rather than sacrifice that which was most valuable in study itself. The schoolmasters everywhere were moving as fast as they ought to move, and he, for one, would be glad if they might be allowed to consider for themselves whether it was wise to move any faster.

The appointment of Governor of the Royal Naval College at Greenwich has been conferred on Admiral Fanshawe, who lately commanded the North American squadron.

The Duke of Norfolk has consented to sell to the Corporation of Sheffield his markets in the borough for £267,000, the payment to extend over fifty years, and the balance to bear interest at 3 per cent. The committee to whom the matter was referred has reported in favour of the purchase.

The Ottoman Legation at Athens has received letters from the Governor of Crete announcing that he has settled the dispute between the Mussulmans and Christians respecting a church which the former would not allow the latter to enter, and declaring that no one was killed in the fighting which occurred in consequence of the dispute.

At the opening of the Working Men's Industrial Art Exhibition last week, at Cambridge, Mr. Alfred Marten, M.P., proposed success to the exhibition. He said there were three problems affecting the working classes which would have to be solved. Firstly, the differences between employer and employed; secondly, the question of education, the only difficulty being to induce parents to send their children to school; thirdly, how to provide recreation for the working classes. This latter problem could not be solved in any better way than by the carrying out of such engagements as they had witnessed that day.

Information has been received from Mr. Edward Young, the leader of the Free and United Presbyterian Kirk Mission to Lake Nyassa, dated Mazaro, Aug. 17. Mr. Young, in his little steamer, reached that place on the 16th, having left the Rongoni mouth of the Zambezi on the morning of Aug. 12. He writes in capital spirits, as he and all his party were well and his steamer had proved a success. The expedition had not, however, escaped without misfortune, for one of the two sailing-boats sent on by Mr. Young had been capsized, some of her native crew drowned, and nearly all the personal luggage belonging to the members of the mission lost. The Englishman in charge of the boat fortunately escaped. They are stated to have found the Zambezi rather low, but such was to be expected at that season of the year. The Sheri river, into which they will turn after ascending another fifty miles, is always deeper, flowing as it does direct from the great Lake Nyassa. Already the news of Mr. Young's arrival has been passed up country, and he was met at Mazaro by his old servant, John Gaitty. The poor fellow expressed his delight at again meeting his former master, and assured Mr. Young that his old boat's crew would soon assemble again to take service under him. No trouble had been experienced in getting natives to work, nor was there reason to anticipate any, seeing how invariably well they were treated by our countrymen in times gone by. It is supposed that Mr. Young reached Chibisa, at the head of the Sheri, below the Murchison Falls, by the end of August, and, allowing him a month to carry his steamer and goods past the falls and put the vessel together again, he probably launched on the lake about the first week in October, which would leave him ample time to establish the mission station on Cape Maclear and explore the lake before the rainy season set in.

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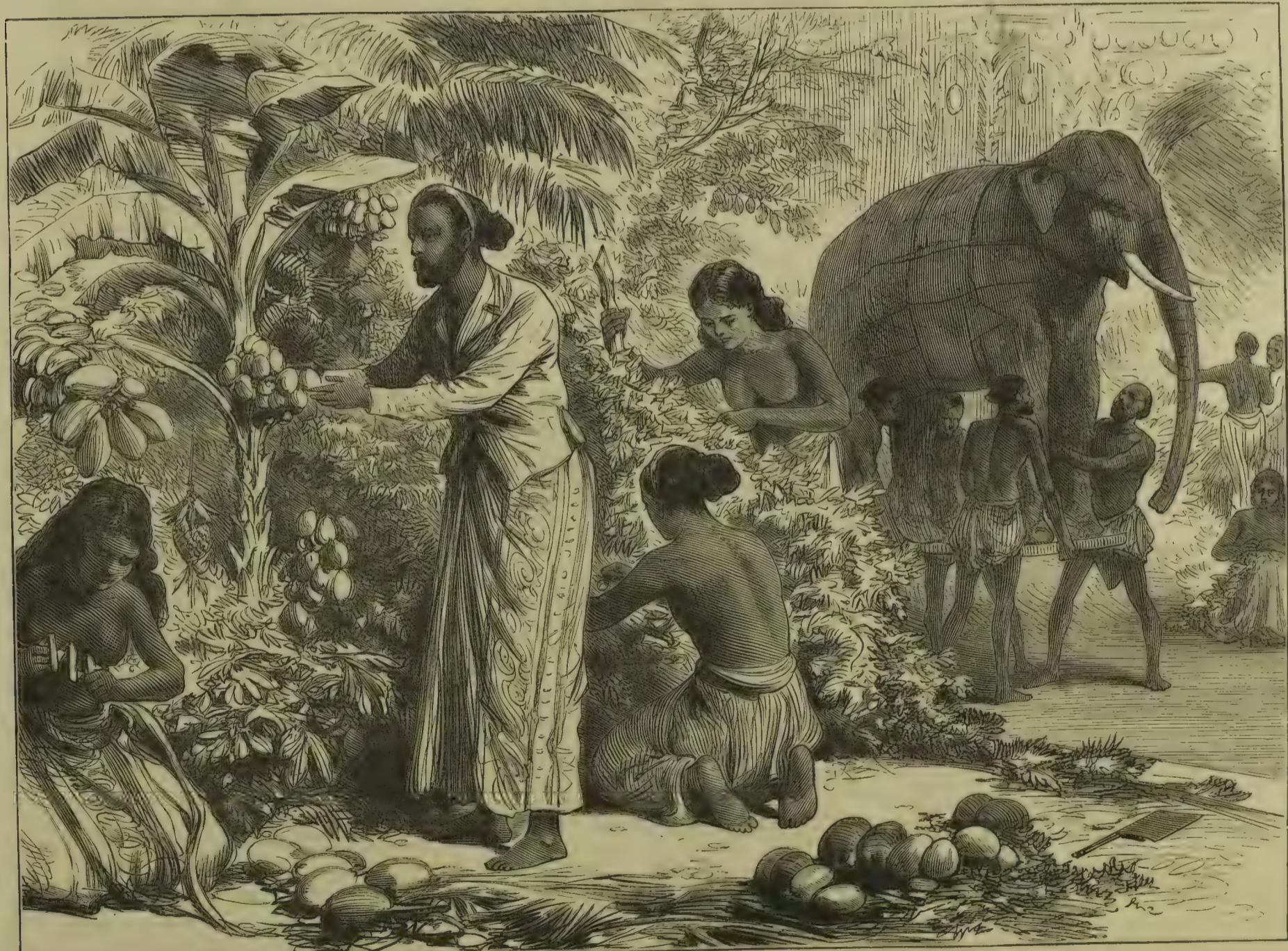
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FINE ARTS.

The Winter Exhibition of Works by Old Masters and Deceased British Artists, at the Royal Academy, will open to the public on Monday next, Jan. 3. The private view takes place to-day (Saturday). The gathering, which numbers about two hundred and sixty pictures, and is little inferior to that of last year, has been supplied for the most part by contributors of former years. So many owners of important collections, which should feed future exhibitions, remain averse to parting with their treasures, that the possibility of continuing these valuable winter displays much longer is, we regret to say, becoming rather questionable. The Queen has set an example of liberality on this as on former occasions, which we trust will have due weight. From the Royal collections come twenty-five pictures, including, by Gainsborough, Queen Charlotte and three daughters and the Duke of Cumberland; Hogarth's picture of Garrick and his wife; Sir Joshua Reynolds's Garrick; Rubens's portraits of himself and his wife; the large Claude, known as "Europa;" and fine examples of Metzu, Vander Neer, and other Dutch masters. The Dukes of Sutherland and Westminster and Lord Radnor again contribute, among the works lent by the first being the famous Romneys, from Trentham. The Marquis of Lansdowne sends from Bowood the predella picture by Raphael, "St. John the Baptist Preaching in the Wilderness," and other fine works. Among the new contributors of important works are Lord Darnley, who sends the splendid Titian, "Europa;" the Earl of Elgin, who lends a fine Velasquez; Mr. Leyland, of Speke Hall, who sends his interesting Luca Signorelli, and other early Italian pictures; Mr. B. Mildmay, who contributes Hogarth's portrait of his wife, Lord Morley, and others.

An exhibition of the works of the lamented artist, F. Walker, will be opened on the 10th inst. at the gallery, 168, New Bond-street. This will be followed by an exhibition of the works of another lately-deceased artist, G. J. Pinwell.

An interesting collection of antique sculptures, gold ornaments, and other objects belonging to Signor A. Castellani is now on view in the British Museum. The principal sculptures are placed as follows. In the Phygian Room are two statues—the Indian Bacchus, a replica of the so-called Sardanapalus of the Vatican, which has been recently found at Posilipo, and a statue representing a boy extracting a thorn from his foot—a free naturalistic treatment of the subject, not a copy of the well-known bronze "Spinario" of the Capitoline Museum. In the recess, opposite the Cnidian Demeter, is a young head of Bacchus, of great beauty; a head of Apollo, similar in type to that of the celebrated Poutalès head; and a head of Euripides. The series of gold ornaments range from the earliest specimens of Etruscan work down to Christian times and, though not equal in variety and value to the collection purchased by the Museum from Signor Castellani some years ago, is interesting as presenting examples of certain kinds of goldsmiths' work not represented among those hitherto acquired by the Museum. Attention is drawn particularly to the earrings with pendants in enamel from tombs at Vulci, and to a series of ornaments in massive gold found in Syria, which probably belong to the period of the later Seleucidae, and form a connecting link between Greek and Roman jewellery. The rings and gems are not less choice and remarkable. We understand that this collection has been offered to the Museum by Signor Castellani, and that the purchase is now under the consideration of the Government.

The Royal Academicians have resolved on increasing the number of associates by four. There being two vacancies, six gentlemen will be chosen at the next election, and henceforth every vacancy is to be filled within six weeks.

The gold medal of the Manchester Exhibition at the Royal Institution has been awarded to M. W. W. Ouless, for his portrait of Mr. Pochin in his laboratory, which was so justly admired when at the last Royal Academy Exhibition.

The Society of Arts announces that it will hold examinations in Fine Arts applied to Industries, the subjects to be such as are not at present included in the general art-examinations of the Science and Art Department, one special object being to test a literary knowledge of the decorative arts. Candidates must have taken a second-grade (art) certificate of the Science and Art Department. The examination will be held on April 25 next. Programmes may be had gratis on application to the secretary.

The Cruikshank Collection, lately belonging to the artist, has been purchased by the directors of the Westminster Aquarium, and will be exhibited in the art-galleries of the society next spring.

Mr. Joseph Durham, A.R.A., has been commissioned to execute a memorial bust of the late Edward Gibbon Wakefield, of colonial celebrity. The bust is to be placed in the New Colonial Office.

We are glad to announce that Mr. Sparkes, to whose able conduct of the Lambeth School of Art we have had to call attention on several occasions, has been appointed by the Art-Department to succeed the late Mr. Burchett as Head Master of the Training-School for Art-Masters at South Kensington. Mr. Sparkes will retain the direction of the Lambeth School and of the Art-Pottery School at Lambeth, some of the products of which now exhibiting at Messrs. Howell and James's we lately noticed.

Mr. Philip Eberlé has presented to the Corporation of Liverpool, for the new Walker Art-Gallery, the picture "Morning after the Battle of Hastings," by A. J. Woolmer—one of this artist's most important works.

A portrait of Mr. Gladstone, painted by Dickenson and provided by public subscription, has been received in Liverpool by the Rev. George Butler, Principal of the Liverpool College. It has been painted in commemoration of the right hon. gentleman's visit to the college two years ago, when he delivered the prizes to the pupils.

The first number of the *Artist*, a weekly paper, the intended publication of which we lately announced, is before us. The new periodical promises to be useful to the artistic profession, and to deserve encouragement for the independence of its criticism, though there is very little of it. But it should be enlarged and its scope extended, so as to include a review of foreign as well as of English art. A fairly good etched portrait of Mr. Millais (the first of a series) accompanies the number.

A gift of one hundred oil-paintings has been made by Mr. W. Robson to the Warrington Art-Gallery. The collection was formed by Mr. Thomas Robson, a painter, brother of the donor.

The last picture painted by Meissonier is now on view in the salon of M. F. Petit, the expert of Paris. It is the largest the artist ever attempted, being no less than three feet square, most abnormal dimensions for Meissonier. It is entitled, "Eighteen Hundred and Seven," and represents the first Napoleon on the battle-field receiving the acclamations of his Marshals and troops on the occasion of one of the victories of that year.

We have to announce the death, at an advanced age, of Mr. William Salter, member of the Society of British Artists; on the roll of which society he is also described as member of the Academy of Florence and corresponding member of the council of the Academy of Parma. Mr. Salter won his reputation as a portrait-painter, before, we may say, the present generation. He is best known, and will be best remembered, through the medium of the engraving from his large picture of "The Waterloo Banquet," containing many portraits of the heroes of that battle—nearly all of whom have passed away.

The death is also announced of Mr. Egon Lundgren member of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, in the sixtieth year of his age. Mr. Lundgren was a Swede, and his death took place at Stockholm. He received his art-education in Paris: he afterwards resided about four years in Italy and five years in Spain. He twice visited Egypt and the East, and thence derived subjects for many drawings exhibited in Pall-mall, which were justly admired for their grace, richness of tone, and skilful execution. He was induced to come to England probably through meeting John Phillip in Spain in 1851-2; he came to London in 1853. Several of his works were painted for the Queen and have not been exhibited. The sketches he made in India while with the staff of Lord Clyde were lately sold at Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Wood's. About 1861 the King of Sweden made him a Knight of the Order of Gustavus Vasa. He wrote two books, "Letters from Spain" and "Letters from India," which were lately published at Stockholm.

MUSIC.

Last week closed with another grand performance of "The Messiah" at the Royal Albert Hall, on the afternoon of Christmas Day; special interest having attached to the occasion on account of the co-operation of Mdlle. Albani as one of the principal vocalists. In the several soprano solos of the oratorio the exquisitely pure voice, cultivated style, and refined sentiment of the singer were admirably displayed. The bravura song, "Rejoice greatly," was brilliantly executed, and produced a marked impression; while the airs "I know that my Redeemer liveth" and "If God be for us" were rendered with intense pathos. The other principal soloists were Madame Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Wadmore; subordinate soprano and tenor solos having been efficiently sung, respectively, by Miss Jessie Jones and Mr. Shakespeare. Sir Julius Benedict and Mr. Barnby conducted the performance.

As mentioned last week, "The Messiah" was given at the Royal Albert Hall on the Thursday evening, under the direction of Mr. W. Carter, and with the co-operation of the fine choir trained by him.

The Christmas concert given on the same Thursday evening at St. James's Hall included fine vocal performances by Mdlle. Albani, besides some effective singing by Mdlle. Thalberg, Mdlle. Bianchi, and other well-known singers. Madame Mantilla de Lopez, a contralto, was well received on her first appearance here, and Mdlle. Gayrard Pacini, also heard for the first time in London, achieved a very decided success by her brilliant execution of pianoforte solos by Chopin, Corelli, and Thalberg. Among the special features of the concert was the clever pianoforte-playing of Mdlle. Jeanne Douste, a child of five years old, whose performance of a fugue of Bach and pieces by Schumann and Rameau displayed rare precocity. It is to be hoped that such talent will be wisely fostered, and its public manifestation withheld for a few years. Some Christmas carols, sung by a select choir conducted by Mr. Barnby, were the chief, if not the only, justification of the title of a concert, which, nevertheless, was one of great and varied interest.

Of the performance, on Monday week, of "The Messiah" at the Royal Albert Hall (with Madame Nilsson and Madame Trebelli as two of the principal vocalists), we have spoken.

Another of last week's celebrations, appropriate to the season, was the Wednesday evening's service at St. Anne's Church, Soho, including portions of Bach's "Christmas Oratorio," performed, with orchestral accompaniments, under the direction of Mr. Barnby. The service was repeated on Wednesday last, and is to take place again on the two following Wednesday evenings.

Of this week's musical doings there is nothing to speak of beyond the two holiday concerts given at the Royal Albert Hall on Monday—one in the afternoon, the other in the evening. These were of a miscellaneous and varied character and consisted of such familiar materials as to call for no special comment. Overtures and other pieces were played by the bands of the Coldstream and Scots Fusilier Guards, under the direction of Mr. F. Godfrey and Mr. J. P. Clarke; and popular vocal music was contributed by Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Misses Alice Fairman and Anna Williams, Messrs. E. Lloyd and Lewis Thomas.

Among the earliest performances of the new year will be an oratorio concert at the Royal Albert Hall, on Thursday next, when Mr. W. Carter's "Placida" and Rossini's "Stabat Mater" will be given, under the direction of Mr. Carter. On the next evening the Sacred Harmonic Society, at Exeter Hall, will perform "Elijah;" on Jan. 8 Mr. John Boosey's tenth season of the London Ballad Concerts will begin; on the following Monday the Popular Concerts at St. James's Hall will be resumed; in the same week the Saturday Afternoon Concerts at the Crystal Palace will recommence, to be followed soon afterwards by the resumption of those at the Alexandra Palace—so that classical music will soon again be prominent among London attractions.

The Birmingham *Gazette* understands that Sir Josiah Mason is about to make another very substantial gift to the new scientific college which he is now building at Birmingham. When the foundation-stone was laid, in February last, it was understood that the mere building of the college would cost £100,000, and Sir Josiah also transferred to trustees, as an endowment for the college, the pile of buildings in which his monster pen manufacture had so long been conducted. This (the *Gazette* says) made a further addition of at least £20,000 or £30,000 to the munificent gift which he had previously made for the promotion of scientific education, and now we hear Sir Josiah is also about to hand over to the trustees the business itself, or rather the whole amount which he is about to receive for the concern. It is now no secret, we believe, that the business has actually been sold to a limited company, though it is possible the formal transfer has not yet actually taken place. The premises, though already transferred to the college, are understood to have been included in the sale; but, irrespective of them, the proceeds are expected to be about £100,000, the whole of which sum, it is said, Sir Josiah intends to give to the college. The money will probably be invested in the names of the local gentlemen who have already been appointed trustees, and will form a permanent endowment for the institution. Sir Josiah Mason has already built in Birmingham an orphanage and almshouses which cost about £250,000.

THE CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE.

The tricksy spirit of the pantomime is this season rather more fruitful than it has been of late years, and has afforded an abundant winter crop of amusement. Having anticipated the plots of many of them last week, we need not be tedious in detail on this occasion. A sufficient summary is, however, expedient—nay, as indispensable, almost, as the repetition of the titles of the more remarkable productions of this festival time. We have too frequently dilated on the merits of Mr. E. L. Blanchard as the prince of modern pantomime inventors to be under any necessity of expatiating on the remarkable degree of talent which he always exhibits in his work. In structure and in dialogue it is as complete as genius and practice combined can make it. "Whittington and His Cat; or, Harlequin Lord Mayor of London," awakens recollections which we always renew with pleasure and satisfaction. In this, the twenty-sixth Drury Lane Christmas annual contributed by this fertile author, we find his usual adherence to nursery history and the accuracy of his archaeological illustrations. The unparalleled Vokes family also appear in it, a host in themselves, who have lately won repeated victories in the United States, and now return to our shores to demonstrate to us how well their laurels become them; to say nothing of what improvements they have accomplished in an art which we had deemed already perfect, and which yet we find to be capable of infinite development. Need we repeat how Dick Whittington (Miss Victoria Vokes) comes from Gloucestershire with his famous cat (Mr. Walter Vokes), and how he gets ill-treated by Dorothy (Miss Harriet Coveney), the cook of Master Hugh Fitzwarren (Mr. Frederick Vokes), the mercer of Cheapside? The morning view given of old Cheapside and the customs celebrated there in the City, and here represented in song and dance most picturesquely and musically, lend remarkable interest to the opening scene. Owing to his ill treatment, we know, Dick runs away, but, having got as far as Holloway, the sound of Bow bells occasions his return. Ultimately all parties are united by a common motive, and find their place on board the good ship Alice, bound for Zanzibar. So far we were enabled to state last week; and so far are we now enabled to state that the literary treatment of the subject is truly worthy of Mr. Blanchard's fertile genius, and that it found in the audience an appreciative and reflecting number of admirers, who were too happy to be noisy. There were, however, occasional bursts of more robust merriment, and the loyalty of pit and gallery was demonstrated by the cheers with which the national ballads—"God Bless the Prince of Wales," "God Save the Queen," and "Rule Britannia"—were received. But we are now in the middle of a scene and of a dance with Mr. Frederick Vokes and Miss Rosina Vokes, soon followed by Miss Victoria Vokes and Mr. Walter Vokes, whose united appearances are acknowledged by the rapture of the crowded audience. The country-dance, in which they all join, is an irresistible provocative of laughter; and in particular the cat-hunt was the signal for uproarious mirth, to which, apparently, there would be no assignable bounds. Pursuing the course of the story we come next to Mr. Beverly's charming scene of Holloway, where Miss Jessie Vokes appears as the Fairy Blue Bell. Next in animation to this is the scene of the ship at sea, where the cats run up the rigging, and a grand breakdown relieves the monotony of the action; all which proceedings, by a marvellous change, become a ballet-scene, filled with marine nymphs, and made vocal and living with their delights, and interesting by the rich accessories with which the supposed action is illustrated. Of the transformation scene it may be said that it is capable of improvement; but it is doubtless also capable of a development which on successive evenings will present it in a comparative state of perfection. The harlequinade is excellent, comprising among its artistes Messrs. C. Ash and E. Dean for Harlequins, Miss St. Pierre and Miss L. Percival for Columbines, Messrs. F. Evans and H. Wright for Clowns, Messrs. P. Herring and J. Morris as Pantaloons, and Miss Rosalind as Harlequina. The whole was received with the tumultuous approbation of an overcrowded house.

COVENT GARDEN.

The pantomime season is again under the direction of Mr. Charles Rice, and he again presents us with a gorgeous spectacle. In is entitled "Cinderella, the Butterfly's Ball and the Grasshopper's Feast." In the development of these complex materials the utmost latitude is given to the fancy, and the most unexpected combinations are permitted, adding novelty to well-worn suggestions and commonplace incidents. Much sacrifice is, doubtless, made to spectacle, and the original stories are scarcely recognisable at first under the ornaments to which, however, they very gracefully submit. All is projected on an extended scale and carried to an elevated height. The simplicity of the childhood of the world is exchanged for the magnificence of the Middle Ages. Long processions of insects, of all sorts and sizes, of all hues, swarming grotesquely or beautifully individualised, exhaust entomology, and reduce even the savan to despair. All this is in advance of the childhood of elder times; but in this scientific age is brought by the Christmas illustrated books within the range of the infant intellect. Well! here we have the result; and boys and girls, of lesser as well as larger growth, are found to be instructed up to the required point. We may gather from this what may be expected in no long distant future from secular education. Cinderella herself (Miss Amalia) has gone through a reforming process, and here we find her in the gleaning-field glad to do anything for the benefit of a father whom her extravagant sisters have ruined. But she is destined to become the wife of Prince Plenteous (Miss Nelly Power), who protects her from hostile rustics, and sings with her a duet. The father (Mr. J. H. Rogers) is represented as a wood-gatherer, whose misery expresses itself in music, and is cheered by the promise of the Prince's Flunkini (Miss Maud Brennan) that his daughters are to be invited to his master's ball. We now get a glimpse of the old story and stage business, and make the acquaintance of the fairy Honeydew (Miss. Julia St. George), and of the fairy coach and coachmen and horses, and the rapid marvellous equipment and equipage with which the fortunate heroine is supplied. All goes elegantly (as an Hibernian would say) with her, and all most clumsily with her unfavoured sisters—bad in temper and uncouth in person. Then comes the ball-room, and the successful dancer appears leaning on the Prince's arm, and all happens as the nursery denizen had probably anticipated. Opportunity at this point is given for presenting the dances of all nations—the Spanish, the Hungarian, the British-naval, the Chinese, and the Japanese—making altogether a series of brilliant pictures. For the rest, our readers must be left to the nursery story-book, with which we must assume them to be well acquainted. Only we must remind them that all things have in this representation "suffered a sea change" and become mythical with a vengeance. As a specimen of what we may call "the ambitious pantomime," this of the Covent-Garden management cannot be excelled. Of the harlequinade we need say but little. In it Mr. John Louis as Clown, Mr. Louis Ellis as

Pantaloons, Mr. Fred Vincent as Harlequin, and Miss Hamilton as Columbine respectively appear. The success of the whole performance is complete.

STRAND.

The Christmas extravaganza here is by Mr. Farnie, who commences his punning bouffonnerie with the title—namely, "Antarctic; or, The Pole and the Traces." We can easily imagine from this how the subject is likely to be treated. It would be impossible for us in any available space to make intelligible a plot so complicated as the present. We may sufficiently intimate it by saying that there are characters for certain actors whose aptitude is hit with singular accuracy. There are, first, Mr. Harry Cox, as Old Bastite, as a fatherly ex-detective; Miss Lottie Venne, as his romantic daughter, Madeleine; Mr. E. Terry as Paletot, a mysterious tailor; and M. Marius as his convenient friend, Amadis de Batignolles. Besides these there is an Antarctic voyager named Ultramarine, whose name is assumed by Paletot, as guardian of the sailor's daughter until his return from the North Pole. The fellow explains all this to Madeleine, thus making clear the identity of Mdlle. Flo (Miss Angelina Claude), who is engaged to one Verpillon (Mr. H. J. Turner). The perplexities that follow we must leave the playgoer to discover for himself; after which the real Ultramarine, arrived in time, enables the parties to wed with a reasonable expectation that their happiness will meet with no further interference. The acting is throughout excellent, and the exciting effect on the audience unmistakable. The selected music has been arranged by Mr. Henry Reed, and the scenery supplied by Mr. H. P. Hall. Of course, the piece exhibits the result of the most consummate skill in this kind of work, interpreted by a company accustomed to play into each other's hands, and not willing to suffer the action to stand still for a single moment.

SURREY.

This transpontine theatre has been re-embellished and re-furnished, and thus worthily supports Mr. Frank W. Green's pantomime, "Jack the Giant-killer, and Tom Thumb; or, Harlequin King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table." The getting-up of this spectacle does honour to the taste and liberality of "the people's caterer," Mr. William Holland. The pantomimist deals with the heroes of Tennyson, Arthur and his Table Round, but not in the Tennysonian spirit; the monarch being represented as habitually bibulous, and not over valiant, and Sir Lancelot as a leader of damsels in the attire of knights. We have already told that the chivalrous soldier had failed in the conquest of the giant Cormoran (Mr. C. Bell), and that the task of completing the adventure falls on Jack the Giant-killer. Miss Jenny Lee, as the nursery hero, was received with a storm of applause. Another successful entrance belonged to Mr. James Fawn, who, as Flutteroso, a wandering troubadour, proved to be an especial favourite of the audience. In the glade of Blossom Land Jack procures armour from the fairy Bountiful, and a fairy dance takes place by a silver lake, the sisters Elliott being the principal danseuses. In a succeeding scene, from which great things were expected, a little girl, called La Petite Grace, won great applause for singing "Tom Tough" and dancing a hornpipe. Jack, disguised as a Dutchman, enters an assembly of giants, sings a Dutch song and dances a Dutch dance, finally discovers his sweetheart, Phillis, who is a prisoner, and leaves the two offending giants dead; whereupon Jack, proceeding to Court, is knighted by the revelling monarch at Caerleon. The transformation scene, from the multiplicity of its details, defies description. Hardly, after its display, the ensuing harlequinade could gain the attention of the spectators, albeit Harry Croueste was clown, Ricketts harlequin, and Signor Galleni pantaloons.

BRITANNIA.

The new Christmas pantomime at the great Hoxton theatre is entitled "El Flambó; or, The Waters of the Singing Well." The libretto is by Mr. Frederick Marchant, and he has supplied the artists, Mr. William Charles and Mr. W. W. Small, with opportunities for illustrating the neighbourhood of the River Lea and Epping Forest. Some of the scenes show a singular fancy in the writer; such as the fine-art gallery in the pit of Acheron, and other eccentricities. Fond of diablerie, he revels in extremes. He is sometimes satirical, as in Cochinckrow, a village lawyer, with a remarkable umbrella, and a habit of referring to his weekly journal. El Flambó is a fiery slave, who wakes up from the sleep of a hundred years to take part in the plot. The performance was thoroughly successful.

STANDARD.

This theatre realises the promise made by its management in regard to its pantomime, "Harlequin, the Children in the Wood, and the Wicked Uncle;" it is decidedly magnificent, the result of lavish expenditure. The general arrangement of the incidents is singularly novel, and a moving panoramic scene, showing the journey of the two children with their faithless guides, deserves the name of "grand" which is attached to its description. It is needless to add that the pantomime is by Mr. John Douglass. There is much in Prince Priam (Miss Kate Neville) that reminds us of Macbeth, for he visits a cave to consult Sybil and the Witches concerning his bride, who appears in the shape of Sally, one of the Babes (Miss Rose Grahame). The fairy Golden Ear (Miss Emma Rettur) sends him on his travels, to discover the fair one. In the ensuing scenes the Paynes have much to do, and to a great extent monopolise the general interest of the action. Sally, above mentioned, escapes from the machinations of Sir Rufus Redhead (Mr. W. H. Payne), and, in company with Thomas, is pursued by the villains. The pursuit is depicted, as we intimated last week, by a moving panorama disclosing very picturesque scenery, ending with a forest, inhabited by live deer. The rescued children all return, and Sir Rufus thereupon quarrels with his tool, Rinaldo (Mr. John Barnum), who proves to be the real father of the children. Among the ballets an allegorical one commands attention; the fairy flower show is a pageant of extraordinary beauty, representing the nymphs of autumn bearing ears of corn, baskets of flowers, and wands of blossoms. Roses, lilies, fuchsias, blue-bells, tulips, dahlias, cover the stage. Fine as this is, it is exceeded by the transformation, where the illuminated tracery of flowers gives place to groups of damsels, which fill the space with magnificence and beauty. In the harlequinade Mr. Fred. Payne plays harlequin, Mr. Harry Payne clown, Mr. Tully Louis pantaloons, and Mdlle. Esta and Miss Rettur two columbines.

GRECIAN.

The pantomime here is always unique, and sure to be attractive, aided by the wonderful feats of Mr. George Conquest and his son. The piece is written by the first-named gentleman and Mr. H. Spry, and is curiously entitled "Spitz-Spitz, the Spider Crab; or, Harlequin, the Sprite of Spitz-Bergen." From this we learn how the Ice Fiend made love to the Water King's daughter, and how the nymph was imprisoned in a pearl at the bottom of the sea. Thither the Ice King, in the shape of a monster spider-crab, follows, and makes the most of his transformation. A shipwrecked company attempt to fish, and are dragged down to the bottom,

where the Prince and another fall in love with Pearline (Miss Lizzie Conquest); but are attacked by the Spider-Crab (Mr. George Conquest), who, however, promises to enable the lovers to unite on condition of receiving half the possessions of Conrad and being aided in escaping the spell by which he is himself bound. In all this there is much that reminds us of the German theatre. The mechanical contrivance by which the Spider-Crab is realised to perfection is highly ingenious as well as effective. The varieties of shape in which he appears excite perpetual astonishment. His performances in the Phantom Fight scene transcend our experience, and cannot be described. Wonder-seekers must really travel to the Grecian for satisfaction.

PAVILION.

The pantomime here is on the subject "Little Bo-Peep," and opens with the bells tolling for the death of good King Wiseacre, whose daughter is in danger, but who is patronised by the fairy Goodheart and beloved by Prince Truelove. The story of Jack and Jill is next told, who live in a village, the picture of which, by Mr. Hyde, is truly enchanting. Another scene, called the grove of palms, is also of great merit. Among the incidents likely to prove attractive we may mention an army of 200 children, splendidly costumed. Jack performs rather a shabby part in the play, aspiring to the hand of the Princess, whom, however, ultimately he surrenders to the Prince. In the harlequinade the Alexandra family appear, and greatly contribute to the success of the performance.

A harlequinade has been added to the burlesque of "Blue Beard" at the Globe, the effect of which is much assisted by the exertions of Messrs. Wallace, Collette, and Beckett, in addition to Mr. Lionel Brough and Mr. Willie Edouin.

At the Marylebone, "The Frog Who Would A-Wooing Go," constructed, as we have already said, by Mr. J. A. Cave and Mr. G. Allan, was successful. The demon Envy is a material as well as a moral or immoral agent in the piece, and deprives the Princess Loveliness of her diadem. The consequence is that she is doomed to slumber until it is restored to her parents. Prince Radiant, by the aid of the Fairy Kindness, is enabled to perform that task. The action consists of the adventures through which he passes. These are all ingeniously contrived. The harlequinade is adequately supplied with comic representatives—Harry Bolton being Clown; M. Algar, Harlequin; Madame Algar, Columbine; Mr. S. Bolton, Pantaloons; and Mr. A. Bolton, Sprite. The depth of the stage affords opportunity for a striking transformation scene.

The Park, at Camden Town, presents a pantomime, called "Sinbad the Sailor," written by Mr. H. P. Grattan. The Elephant and Castle takes for its theme "Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son; or, Harlequin Simple Simon, the Demon Pieman, and Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary"—a mélange exactly suited to the taste of the local audience. The Albion is content with "Jack and the Beanstalk."

At other London theatres, which have already mounted pieces intended for permanence, the customary business has been retained, with slight variations. Mr. Sothern made his reappearance at the Haymarket on Monday, and resumed his character of David Garrick. The play was succeeded by Mr. Buckstone's comedy of "Married Life." Both pieces proved to be enjoyable by a holiday audience. At the Adelphi, Mr. Boucicault's "Shaughraun," transferred from the boards of Old Drury, was welcomed by a full house. There are many changes in the cast, but without any perceptible effect on the fortunes of the drama. The new scenery has been supplied by Messrs. Lloyd and Hann. The farce of "Vandyke Brown" preceded, with Mr. John Clarke as the photographic artist, and that of "My Own Ghost" succeeded, the humour of which evidently delighted the audience.

Out of London we have to notice the successful representations of the pantomimes at the Crystal Palace and the Alexandra. The former, as already stated, written by Mr. E. L. Blanchard, is of rare literary merit. The title of "Jack in Wonderland; or, the Magic Beanstalk, the Giant, and the Merry Pranks of the Good Little People," suggests equally its subject and spirit. As a fairy tale only it has considerable merits, as a stage exhibition it is managed with masterly ingenuity. In the introduction occasion is taken to discuss the several events of each month in the year. The action also pursues a similar plan, beginning with January. The difficulties of Goody Greyshoes are soon dismissed, and her position to pay her rent by the sale of her cow is accepted. Jack is a favourite of the fairies, being the lost son of Prince Caradoc, carried off by the Giant. He sells the cow for a bag of beans. The magic beanstalk conducts Jack to the North Pole, after which he visits India, where a grand Oriental ballet takes place. A shawl dance, arranged by M. Espinosa, shows great taste, and Espinosa himself, as Scarlet Runner, attends upon the hero, who much enjoys the splendid ceremonies which constitute the business of the scene. In contrast to this the Giant's castle succeeds, where we see the Giant's baby, half the height of the stage, and afterwards his own head occupying the whole of it. But all this gives way to the transformation scene, the abode of King Pheasantseye, where the changes are numerous and dazzling, enriched with all possible colours. The harlequinade is excellent. The success of the piece is much indebted to Miss Caroline Parkes, whose clever portrait of the hero will be long remembered. Mr. T. H. Friend, the conductor, was great as Goody Greyshoes, and as manager of the auxiliary forces. The one-legged M. Pierrot, and the other dancers, will prove eminently attractive. Mr. Brew's transformation scene, representing a Birthday Story, is exceedingly beautiful; and Mr. F. Fenton's scenery is throughout in the best taste. We must not omit to mention Miss Clara Richards, whose Columbine was signally graceful.

At the Alexandra "The Yellow Dwarf; or, the King of the Gold Mines," by the Brothers Grimm, fully carried out the expectations formed of it. Our readers are already aware that much of its success depended on the efforts of Mr. George Conquest and his son; but it would be wrong to deny the great merits of the book itself. The composition of the libretto is remarkably elegant, and the disposition of the subject very ingenious. The first scene introduces to us a pair of skaters, who secure our admiration, and are followed by Jack Frost and other allegorical personages. But the Silver Hall gives way to the Golden Temples of India's Fairy Land, and a grand ballet of one hundred coryphées. The next scene shows us George Conquest, first, as the Enchanted Tree, then as the Owl, and, lastly, as the Yellow Dwarf. He has a rival in his love of the Princess Allfair (Miss Dot Robins) in King Meliodorus (Miss Carry Nelson), and ultimately fate decides for the monarch. Magnet, a sprite attendant on the Desert Fairy (Mr. Geo. Conquest, jun.), encounters the Dwarf, and is the conqueror in a phantom fight which takes place in Cobweb Cave and Spider's Glen. In rehearsing this arduous scene Mr. Conquest met with an accident, which deferred the production of the pantomime from Tuesday to the Friday; but on the latter day he had sufficiently recovered to exhibit those feats

on the trapeze with his son which are quite as much the wonder of the profession as of the public. The harlequinade is principally appropriated by the Lauri family—Mr. John Lauri as Clown, Mr. C. Lauri as Pantaloons, and Madame Lauri as Columbine. Mr. Sims as Harlequin, and Miss C. White as Harlequin, were remarkably efficient. The transformation scene, representing the Glowworm Glade in the Fern Forest, leading to the Desert Fairy's Floral Home, painted by Soames and J. Johnstone, is replete with various beauty and full of enchantment, giving immense delight to a numerous and fashionable audience.

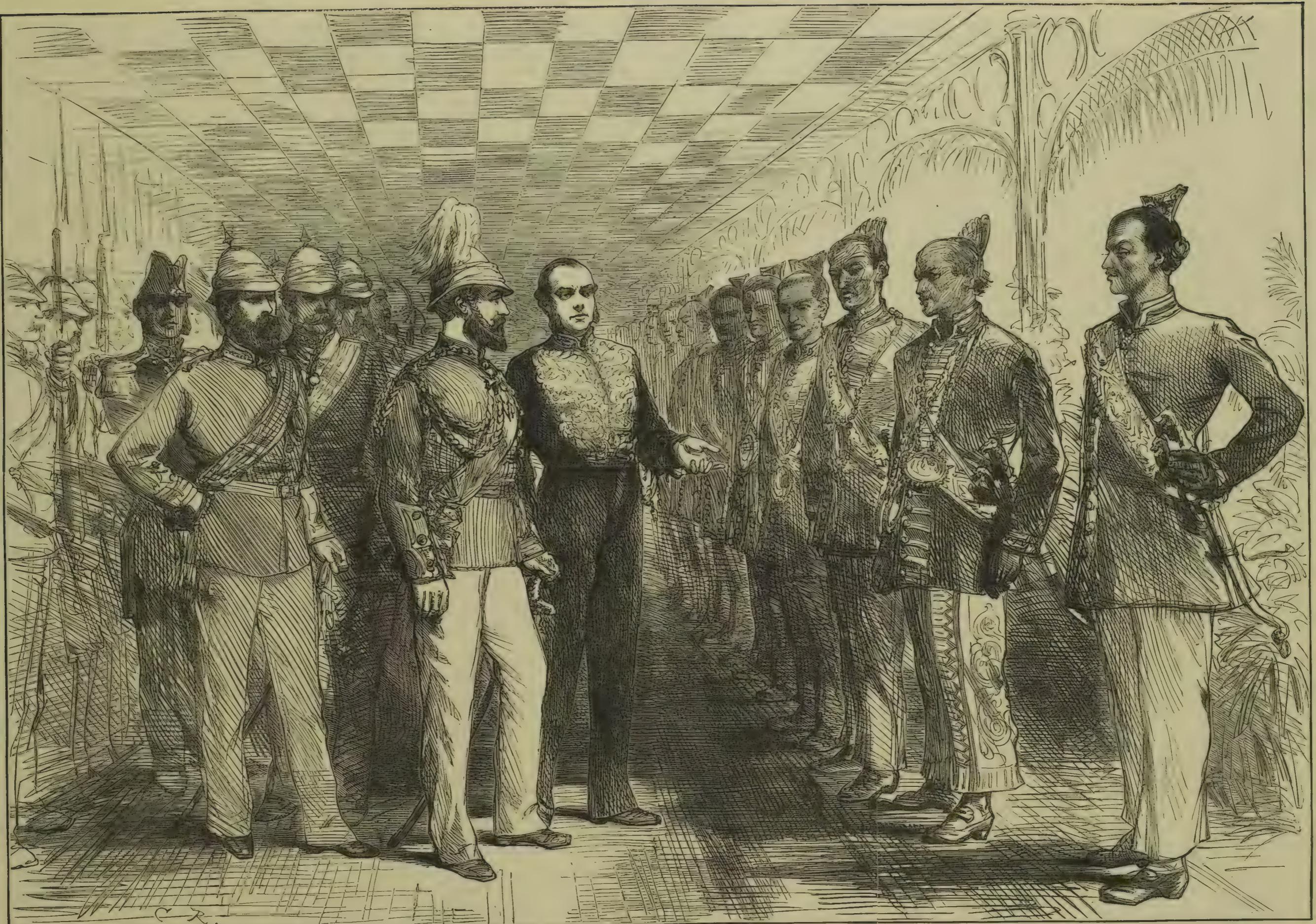
We may now turn to other entertainments. Mr. Hengler has a pantomime, as well as his usual equestrian spectacle, on the well-worn theme of "Valentine and Orson; or, Harlequin King Pippin and the Wild Man of the Woods." The constructor is M. Felix Revolti, who has richly provided for the merriment of his patrons. The effect of this performance is unaided by scenic accessories, but the merely natural advantages of the carpeted space are sufficient to suggest all that the imagination requires. Occasionally a machine-contrivance aids the fancy. Cars drawn by ponies convey the fairy queen, Sunbeam, and their attendants; and Green Night, waving a fiery brand, careers on his coal-black steed, causing immense terror, until violently dismounted. Mr. J. M. Hengler plays the part of Valentine, and Mdlle. Mathilde Vidal his lady-love, the Princess Eglantine. That of Orson is supported by M. Felix Revolti himself. The impression made by the show on the juvenile spectators was decidedly marked. The harlequinade that followed, which included several ballets of much grace and elegance, was in all its parts most efficiently carried out. Notwithstanding the difficulties attending a primitive production like this, no mistake of any kind occurred, and the whole was satisfactorily realised. A selection of scenes in the circle is given before the pantomime commences.

At Messrs. Sanger's Amphitheatre the "Lady Godiva; or, Harlequin St. George, the Dragon of India, and the Seven Champions of Christendom," are the subjects and title of the pantomime. Such a theme, familiar as these stories are, affords large scope for spectacular display, of which the managers have availed themselves to the utmost. In the course of the action the Caves of Elephants are produced, a scene of unsurpassable grandeur. Much Oriental gorgeousness, in the shape of Amazons and princely personages, guards mounted on elephants, and processions of all kinds, will suggest allusions to the Prince of Wales's tour that cannot fail to be appreciated by British audiences. Notwithstanding Mr. George Sanger's illness, the result of the experiment justified its production. The manner in which the various legends are linked together must be left for the spectator's own verification on witnessing the performance. The ride through the streets of Coventry by the Lady Godiva (Miss G. Smithson) was judiciously and modestly managed. Of all the scenes, however, for spectacular display the Indian pageant bears off the palm: an animated panorama of grotesque and gorgeous individualities—elephants, camels, dancing-girls, mounted warriors, and singing children. The splendid sight awakened boundless enthusiasm in the immense audience that witnessed it.

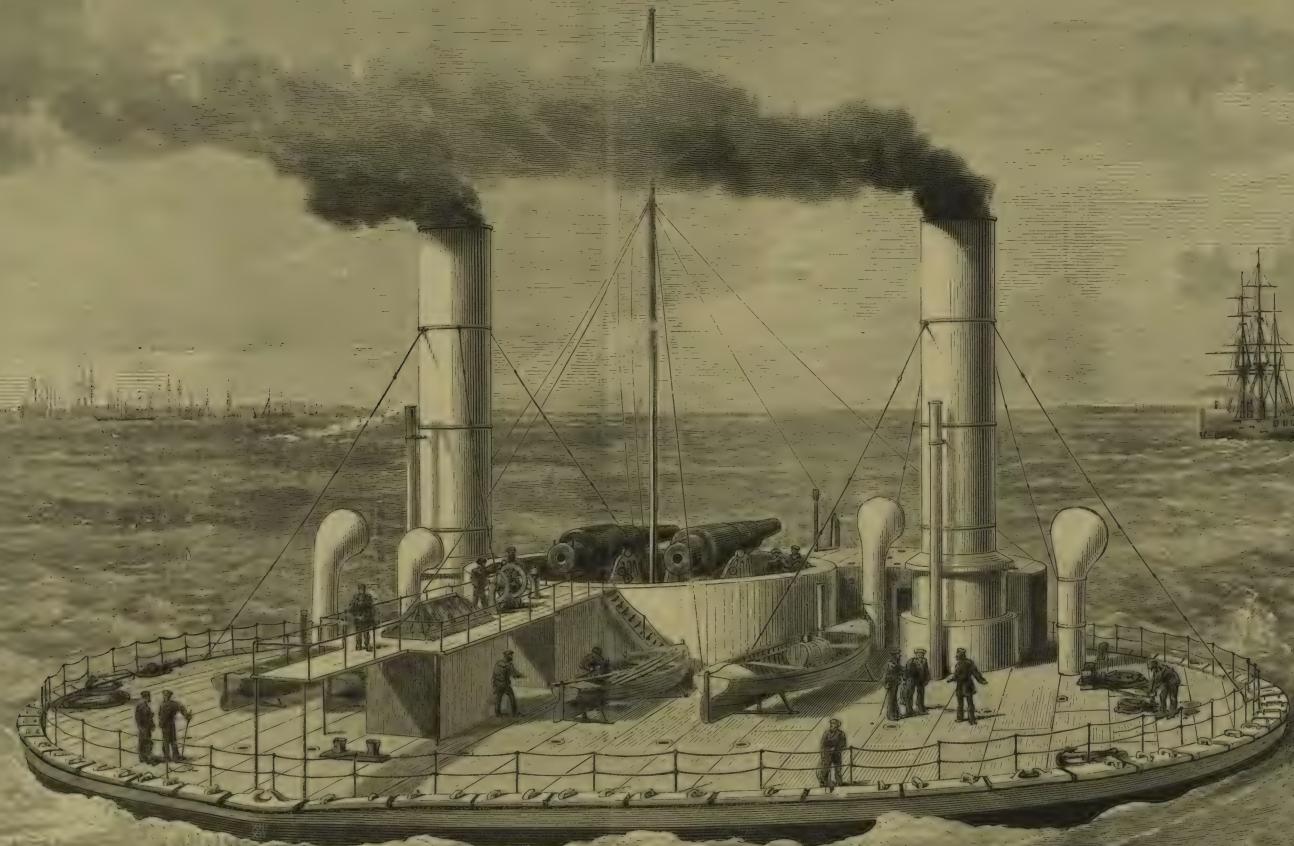
The Brothers Rizareli have opened their Grand Cirque at the Amphitheatre, High Holborn, and provided such fare for their Christmas visitors as is highly creditable to their taste and enterprise. Their equestrian entertainment is certainly of a high class, and the tricks are executed with an artistic precision which does honour to their skill and intelligence. The course, on Boxing Night, occupied fifteen scenes, exclusive of a comic, or rather farcical, little drama with which the performances concluded, dismissing the spectators in a merry mood. The first scene was a grotesque exhibition of Mr. Warne on his barebacked steed, which reminded us of several like feats not less excellent, but scarcely more meritorious. The next was a drawing-room entertainment, by the Pospichel Amerigo, which was well calculated to afford gratification to those who are fond of quiet gymnastics. Fraulein Minna Goetz, accompanied by the clown, George Benham, performed the usual feats with horse and hoops, and won deserved acclamation. The performing horse Shamyl went through his paces admirably with the Vicomte de Corby; and Mr. Frank Pastor shone no less in those feats of equitation which have entitled him to the distinction of being regarded as the champion American somersault-rider. Professor Nelson and Sons also distinguished themselves as acrobatic entertainers, à la Risley. In the second part La Petite Georgina bounds through the air in the most daring and graceful manner, and is relieved in her equestrianism by the wit of the clown Patterson, who has likewise a scene of his own, in which he displays his abilities as an Irish humourist to the satisfaction of the audience, who encored his merry songs again and again. The twelfth scene tops the wonderful in the contortions of M. Prunier, who does the most apparently impossible things in the most impossible of attitudes. Mdlle. Jenny Visser managed her tandem horses with exceeding grace. A dangerous double-trapeze performance, by L'Africaine, Albérta, and Mdlle. Theofila, excited the utmost enthusiasm, by the precision and neatness with which the most terrible feats were executed. Fortunately there was no need for the net spread under them in anticipation of a fall, which might have happened but did not. Señor Domingo Rizarelli introduced his celebrated horse Juno; and due notice is promised of the appearance of the Rizarelli Brothers, whose talented inventions will give the final touch to a performance otherwise altogether excellent in kind and degree. The whole was received with oft-repeated and well-deserved bursts of genuine applause.

At the St. James's Hall Messrs. Moore and Burgess commenced their holiday performances on Monday. The hall was so crowded that many were unable to obtain admission. The long and varied programme was relieved, as usual, by much pleasant ballad-singing, and supported with great spirit by Mr. G. W. Moore and Mr. Walter Howard, as the "bones" and "banjo," who evoked immense laughter. The pathetic ballads proved exceedingly effective. A representative of Captain Webb in a comic sketch was apparently taken for the swimmer himself, and caused much amusement. The Moore and Burgess Minstrels will appear next Monday in their own hall, which is under process of decoration.

Notwithstanding the dull and damp weather on Monday, all the free exhibitions and other places of public amusement were filled with sightseers, and the main thoroughfares were crowded until a late hour. Upwards of 47,000 persons went to the Crystal Palace; the estimate of the number of visitors to the Alexandra Palace varies from 30,000 to 50,000; the South Kensington Museum had during the day 20,000 visitors; the British Museum, 16,400; the National Gallery, 10,000 or 12,000; and the Tower of London, 2700. Many thousands of persons went to the Zoological Gardens, but the numbers have not been published; and St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey were also visited by large numbers of sightseers. The Albert Hall was twice filled with large audiences to hear two popular concerts, and in the evening the theatres and other places of entertainment were crowded.

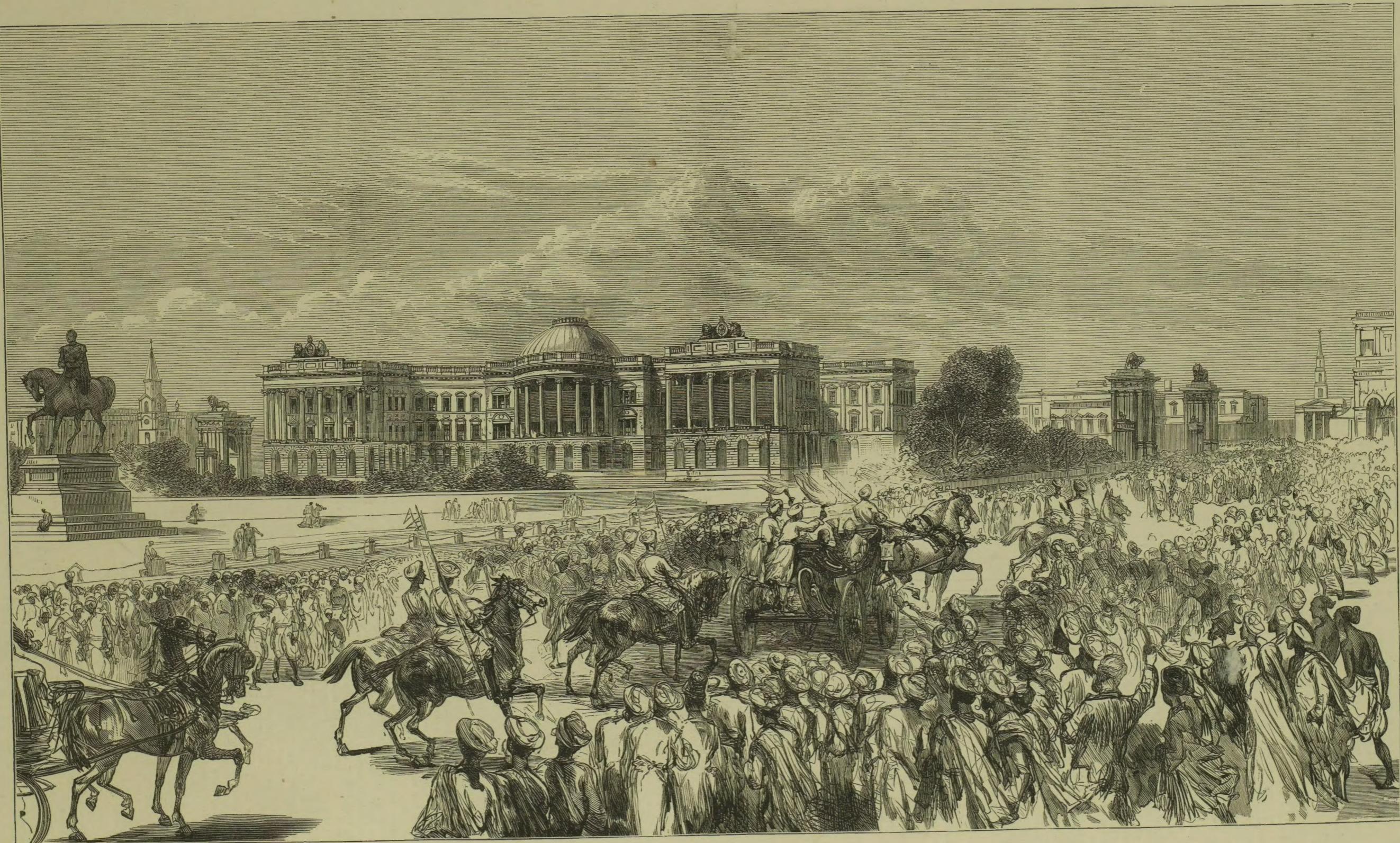


LANDING OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AT COLOMBO: THE GOVERNOR INTRODUCING CINGHALESE CHIEFS TO THE PRINCE.
FROM A SKETCH BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.



J. W. Wells

THE RUSSIAN CIRCULAR IRONCLAD NOVGOROD.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, CALCUTTA.

SKETCHED BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

Close up to the very eve of what is called the festive season the utterings of legislators at leisure were at high flow, and, though by this time they have almost passed into the region of history, they were of a character to bear retrospect. Both parties have been at work, trying to trump each other, and, as it happened, the Government played two high trumps for their party just before the cessation of the game. Everyone knows that the show member of the Ministry is the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, as a finale to an extensive round of political performances, found himself at last at Stamford. Now this town is not in his county, but it is situated in a district with which Mr. Ward Hunt is locally connected, and it was obvious that he should attend a gathering, political or agricultural, in that place. In groping for reasons why Sir Stafford Northcote should travel so far out of his personal orbit, it may occur to some people that he was selected to sustain the First Lord of the Admiralty in his appearance before even such an audience as would assemble at Stamford. It was as if the good and virtuous and diligent apprentice was giving the light of his countenance to the idle and erring apprentice, trusting that the excellence of the one might spare a little supererogation to neutralise the naughtiness of the other. One can very well imagine Sir John Hay, who, as the representative of Stamford, was present, and who is not in the very best of tempers with a Government which has deserted him, indulging in side-long sneers and furtive grins when the first Lord of the Admiralty was trying to make things pleasant with the Stamfordians; and that he would have liked to have burst into a declaration that all the late nautical mishaps would not have occurred if he, in the fruition of his ambition, had been England's Minister of Marine. As it was, however, the halo which now always surrounds the Chancellor of the Exchequer extended itself sufficiently over Mr. Ward Hunt to have saved him from any mortification, if there had happened to be any of the persons present adequately acute to be malicious.

There was a great deal of significance in the proceedings of that political demonstration at Sheffield to which Lord Hartington spoke in his character of the leader of the Liberal party. On the face of it it seemed as if it was intended to notify the confidence of the Radical section of the party in the noble Lord as their chief. Impartial lookers-on were, perhaps, amused to find Lord Hartington surrounded by Mr. Stansfeld, Mr. H. Richard, Mr. Mundella, with Mr. Waddy at the end of the tail, who, it may be sure, made a loud rattling. If Lord Hartington's Liberalism had been all gathered together and concentrated so as to operate upon him on such an occasion, is it possible that there could be really anything in common between him and such a crew as that? And is it not likely that when he was laying down his programme of leadership the noses of their mind were turning up at the idea of their being really led by a chief who, with all his efforts, cannot get out of the groove of moderation in politics. In him they found no profession of the burn-sink-and-destroy policy which Mr. Leatham not long ago laid down as the essence of Liberalism; but, for all that, it is more than probable that the country, which is in no humour to patronise the firebrand system, has begun to recognise in Lord Hartington a statesman who has carefully considered the great part which he has to play, has chosen his mode of developing it, and that his tactics are sage, practical, and adapted to the time in which the chieftainship of his party has devolved upon him. At any rate, he had the courage to stand by his intentions at Sheffield, even at the risk of alienating the fiery politicians who brought him thither to declare himself.

It may have been noticed by observers of the House of Commons that Anglo-Indian members—those who were thought fitted to be satraps and personal rulers of men in the East—when they come to be units in the Legislature, do not exhibit any especial strength or force of character; nay, even in some cases they might be designated feeble. In the case of Mr. Christopher Beckett Denison, it may be said that he undoubtedly possesses a certain robustness and a good deal of confidence, but as a speaker the epithet may be applied to him which good old Baxter, in his forcible vernacular, used towards those whom he held to be lagging Christians. If Mr. Denison spoke the other day at Birstall as he does in the House, having every liberty to speak long, and availing himself of that liberty to the utmost, the worthy people of that place must be endowed with a patience and long-suffering worthy of martyrs; and the extent of that patience was still further tested when the first speech was ended. Argent upon Or is bad heraldry, and something akin to the principle involved in that rule may be found in the fact that on the occasion to which reference has been made Mr. Denison succeeded Mr. Joshua Fielden, who, sensible, practical as a politician and excellent as a man, as a speaker is the very quintessence of dreariness. It must have taken all the efforts of Mr. Wheelhouse, who also was present, in the way of loud and eccentric talk, to rouse this fatigued audience from the semi-mesmeric state into which it must have been thrown.

When Mr. Disraeli was at Manchester two or three years ago, and was receiving deputations from all the Lancashire constituencies, to each of which he addressed a word of encouragement and advice, he was emphatic in telling those who came from Salford "that they must take great care of their then members." The initiated, of course, understood the covert irony of the observation, but the persons principally concerned passed on, beaming with delight. A general election has taken place since that occurrence, and Salford has taken care of its members, for Mr. Cawley and Mr. Charley now, as then, represent that borough. As these gentlemen have recently been cultivating the good relations with exist between them and their constituents, a word or two may be said about them. In the House Mr. Cawley is a quiet, hard-working member, in the arrangements of bills apt with practical suggestions, and as a rule never coming forward unless he has something really to say, and never saying it at too great length. Every one knows that Mr. Charley is of an aspiring temperament, like all ambitious men of his small type, restless, and quite ready to be eccentric—one had almost said absurd—rather than not be prominent. Since the accession of the present Ministry he has been somewhat reticent, and more retiring in the House than he used to be. It would seem, however, that he has within him a great deal of pent-up eloquence; and he bestowed a considerable part of it on the electors of Salford on the occasion to which allusion has been made. He has often been startling in his figures of speech, but during this latest of his addresses he outdid himself, and has acquired a negative fame which ought not to fade away. For with elaborate minuteness, working out the figure in detail, he compared Mr. Gladstone to a criminal whose horrid deeds have occupied so much attention of late.

The Liberals have lost the seat for East Aberdeenshire, vacant by the death of Mr. Fordyce. At the close of the poll last week the numbers were—General Gordon (Conservative), 1903; Mr. Hope (Liberal), 1528. Nearly four-fifths of the constituency polled.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

A ROSENBAUM.—Many thanks for the information. Your communication, however, did not reach us in time for last week's column.

W. M'CLELLAND.—We are greatly obliged by your courtesy.

T. H. KNIGHT.—We will look over your contribution, but are afraid the "Knight's Tour" has been done to death.

A. ECKER.—Many thanks for the batch of problems. We cannot, however, entertain positions that have been published before in England, even though incorrect in the first instance.

H. A. C.—The treatment of the "Queen Bishop's Pawn Opening," or "Staunton's Game," as it is called in Germany, in the *Handbuch*, is meagre to a degree. You will find it analysed far more fully in Mr. Wormald's "Chess Openings."

T. HAZEL.—Thanks for the Problem. We believe we are correct with regard to your former position. If, in reply to 1. Q takes P (ch), you play K to Q 5th, White answers with 2. B to K 3rd; and whether you then play 2. K takes Kt or K to K 6th, the answer is 3. Q to Q 7th, mating next move.

G. C. BAXTER.—Your two-mover shall have attention.

A. R. F.—We do not say that there is no such thing as luck in chess. For instance, a move is often played early in the game for one purpose which ultimately turns out serviceable for another, in a manner that could not possibly have been foreseen.

W. H. M.—The verses are very clever; but for obvious reasons we cannot make use of them.

C. H. DOYLE.—You may obtain the *German Handbuch* through any foreign bookseller, price 18s. We do not know the price of *Theorie und Praxis*.

A. F.—We do not care to reopen the matter. Surely the apology was abject enough.

PROBLEM NO. 1660.—Additional correct solutions received from Miss Jane D. F. Gotch, Deep Hee, W. V. G. D. I. S. T. W. F. Payne. Those by Wignmore-street and W. H. Carlyon are wrong.

PROBLEM NO. 1661.—Correct solutions received from NUX, Bosco, XVI L. Wee Pawn, E. H. V. G. H. V. E. Graf zur Lippe, Deep Hee, Thorpe, H. W. of Oxford, W. F. Payne, Latte, H. Schlesinger, Emile F. H. C. S. Those by J. B. F. Edmund, Harvey Lyon, A. Andrew, Bonet, Gladys, W. V. G. D. G. C. Baxter, Robertus, R. W. S. J. C. G. H. Gwyn, Peter, R. H. Tooney, Hermit, and Woolwich Chess Club are wrong.

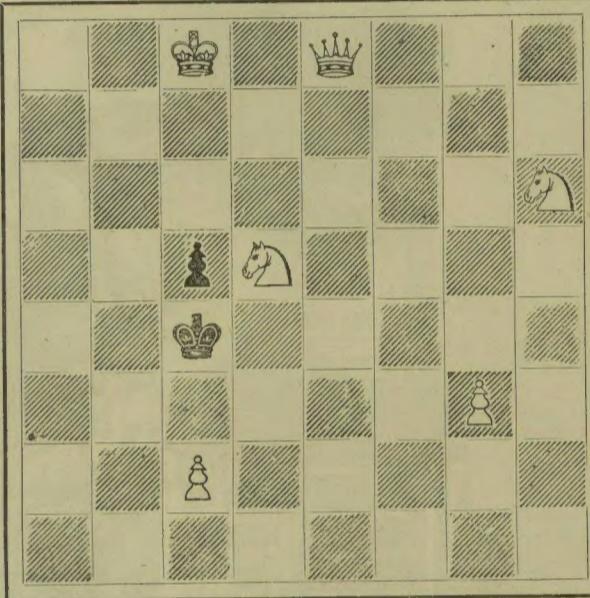
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1661.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to Q R 7th	K to B 6th*	3. Q to Kt 3rd. Mate.	
2. Q to Q Kt 8th	Anything		3. Q mates.
* 1. K to B 5th			
2. Q takes K P (ch). K moves			

PROBLEM NO. 1663.

By Mr. JOHN CRUM, of Glasgow.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

BLINDFOLD CHESS.

The following Game was recently contested at the Union Chess Club, Manchester, between Mr. BLACKBURN and Mr. ROBEY, the former conducting seven other games simultaneously, without seeing the boards or men.

(The Danish Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. R.)	WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. R.)		
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	19. P takes P	P takes P		
2. P to Q 4th	P takes P	20. Kt takes P (ch)	K takes Kt		
3. P to Q B 3rd		21. Q takes B	Q takes Q		
This constitutes the so-called "Danish Gambit." The opening, however, was frequently played in England by Mr. Burden long before the "Danish Gambit" was ever heard of. Properly opposed, it should leave the first player with a decidedly inferior game.					
3.	P to Q 6th	22. B takes Q	Kt to Kt 3rd		
3. P to Q 4th is nearly so effective as 3. P takes P, or					
4. B takes P	B to Q B 4th	23. P to Q Kt 6th			
5. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	This is new, ingeess, and all-together unlike Mr. Blackburn's vigorous style. With a pawn ahead and two Bishops, again two Knights, White's game might easily be left to win. If, however, he had instead of this unprofitable move he had played 23. K R to Q 8, what could Black have done? He has, seemingly, no better reply than the move in the text, 23. P to B 4th. E.g.:-			
6. Castles	B to K Kt 5th	23. K R to Q 8d	P to K 4th		
7. P to K B 3rd	B to K R 4th	24. B to K B 5th	Kt to R 5th		
8. P to Q Kt 4th	B to Q Kt 3rd	25. B takes Kt (ch)	R takes B		
9. P to Q R 4th	P to Q R 4th	26. B to Q B 7th	Kt to K B 4th		
10. P to Q Kt 5th				27. Q R to Q 8d	K R to K Sq
11. B to K B 3rd	Kt to Q 2nd	28. R takes R	K takes R		
12. Q Kt to Q 2nd	P to K B 3rd	29. R to Q Sq (ch)	K to B 3rd		
13. B to K R 2nd	Castles	30. K to B Sq	P to K 5th		
14. B to K 2nd	P to K Kt 4th	31. R to Q R Sq	Kt to K 2nd		
15. Kt to Q B 4th	B takes Kt	32. P to K B 3rd	R to Q B 5th		
16. B takes B	Kt to K 2nd	33. B to Q 8th	K to Q 2nd,		
17. B to K Kt 4th	B to Q B 4th	and the game was given up as drawn.			

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

WEST-END CHESS CLUB.—The extraordinary general meeting, adjourned from Nov. 30, for the "alteration and revision of the rules," was held on Dec. 16—the president, Mr. Eccles, in the chair. The secretary read *en bloc* the draught of rules as revised by the committee, and then proposed each rule separately. Several slight amendments and verbal alterations were proposed and accepted nem. con., with the exception of rule 7, to which the amendment was put, "That the number of committee-men should be twelve instead of eight." This was strongly opposed, but the amendment was ultimately carried by a large majority. The last rule was passed close upon midnight, after which upwards of twenty members sat down to supper. The handicap, from which first and second class players are excluded, and the tournament on even terms, open to all except the first class, are making satisfactory progress, the first round of the former having been nearly completed.

BLINDFOLD CHESS AT MANCHESTER.—On Saturday, the 18th ult., Mr. J. H. Blackburn played his annual blindfold match at the Union Chess Club, Hiley's Restaurant, 50, Market-street, Manchester. Play commenced about 2.30 p.m., the following members taking part in the contest—Messrs. Edmundson, Fleming, J. E. Goodwin, J. W. Goodwin, Grundy, Dr. Hewitt, Robey, and Simon—eight games in all being contested. At eight o'clock, the time fixed for the conclusion of play, Messrs. Simon, Edmundson, and Grundy had resigned their games, and that with Mr. Fleming had been drawn by mutual consent. Of the remaining four those with Messrs. Hewitt, Robey, and J. E. Goodwin were declared drawn, the positions being about equal, and the one with Mr. J. W. Goodwin was decided to be a won game for Mr. Blackburn; the final result of the match thus being four games won by Mr. Blackburn, and four drawn. We give one of the games.

The Roman Catholic Directory for 1876 shows that there are 1762 priests in England and Wales, of whom 1231 are seculars and 531 are regulars. These numbers do not include a considerable number of Jesuits who have temporarily settled in England. There are 50 Roman Catholic peers, in the Privy Council 7 Roman Catholics, while the number of Roman Catholic baronets is put down at 47.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will and codicil, dated March 9, 1864, and April 16, 1875, of Mr. Thomas Jones, formerly of Liverpool, but late of No. 22, Greville-place, Kilburn, merchant, who died, Nov. 4, at Castries, in the Island of St. Lucia, West Indies, were proved on the 9th ult. by Thomas Owen Jones, the son, and Miss Anne Jane Jones, the daughter, the acting executors, the personal estate being sworn under £100,000. The testator bequeaths to each of his executors £50; to his sister, Jane Hughes, for life, and to her husband, John Henry Hughes, if he survive her, an annuity of £30; and the residue of his property to all his children in equal shares.

The will, with seven codicils, dated respectively Aug. 28, 1858, Feb. 28, and March 18, 1863, March 27, 1866, March 22, 1869, April 29, 1873, and Jan. 30 and Oct. 14, 1874, of Dame Caroline Anne Kyrie Money (widow of Sir James Kyrie Money, Bart.), late of No. 31, Gloucester-place, Portman-square, who died on Oct. 19 last, was proved on the 23rd ult. by Thomas Quested Finnis and Thomas Kerr Lynch, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £90,000. There are a good many legacies, and the residue of her property the testatrix gives to her nieces, Caroline Ann Lynch, Harriet Sophia Lynch, Sophia Jane Sadler, Fauny Caroline Taylor, and her nephew, Robert Taylor.

The will, dated Sept. 15 last, of Sir James Hill, Chief Charity Commissioner for England and Wales, late of No. 5, Mansfield-street, Portland-place, who died at Folkestone on Oct. 23, was proved on the 25th ult. by Dame Emily Jane Hill, the widow and sole executrix, the personal estate being sworn under £60,000. The testator bequeaths to his son Charles Hill £10,000; to his sons, Edwin Frederick Hill and Reginald Henry Hill, £7500 each; and the rest of his property to his widow absolutely.

The will and codicil, dated Jan. 15 and Aug. 13, 1874, of Sir William Edmond Logan, LL.D., F.R.S., and F.G.S., late of Montreal, Canada, who died on June 22 last, at Castle Malgwyn, Pembrokeshire, were proved on the 30th ult. by Mrs. Elizabeth Gower, the sister, the personal estate in England being sworn under £3000. The testator bequeaths to the Montreal General Hospital 1000 dols. currency.

The will, dated June 29, 1871, of Admiral James Vassion Baker, late of Cossington House, Richmond Park, Clifton, who died on Oct. 14 last, at Neen Solars Rectory, Salop, was proved on the 16th ult. by Major-General Sir William Erskine Baker, K.C.B., and the Rev. Joseph Baker, the brothers, the executors, under £25,000.

The will and codicil of Colonel Henry William St. Pierre Bunbury, C.B., late of Marchfield House, near Wokingham, Berks, who died on Sept. 18 last, were proved on the 17th ult. by Mrs. Cecilia Caroline Bunbury, the widow, and Lieut.-General William Craig Emilius Napier, the brother-in-law, the acting executors, under £35,000.

The will, dated Sept. 5, 1871, of Captain James Graham Goodenough, R.N., Commodore of the Australian station, who died on Aug. 20 last, at sea, was proved on the 26th ult. by Lieut.-Colonel Robert William Hamilton and Lieut.-Colonel William Howley Goodenough, the brother, the acting executors, under £4000.

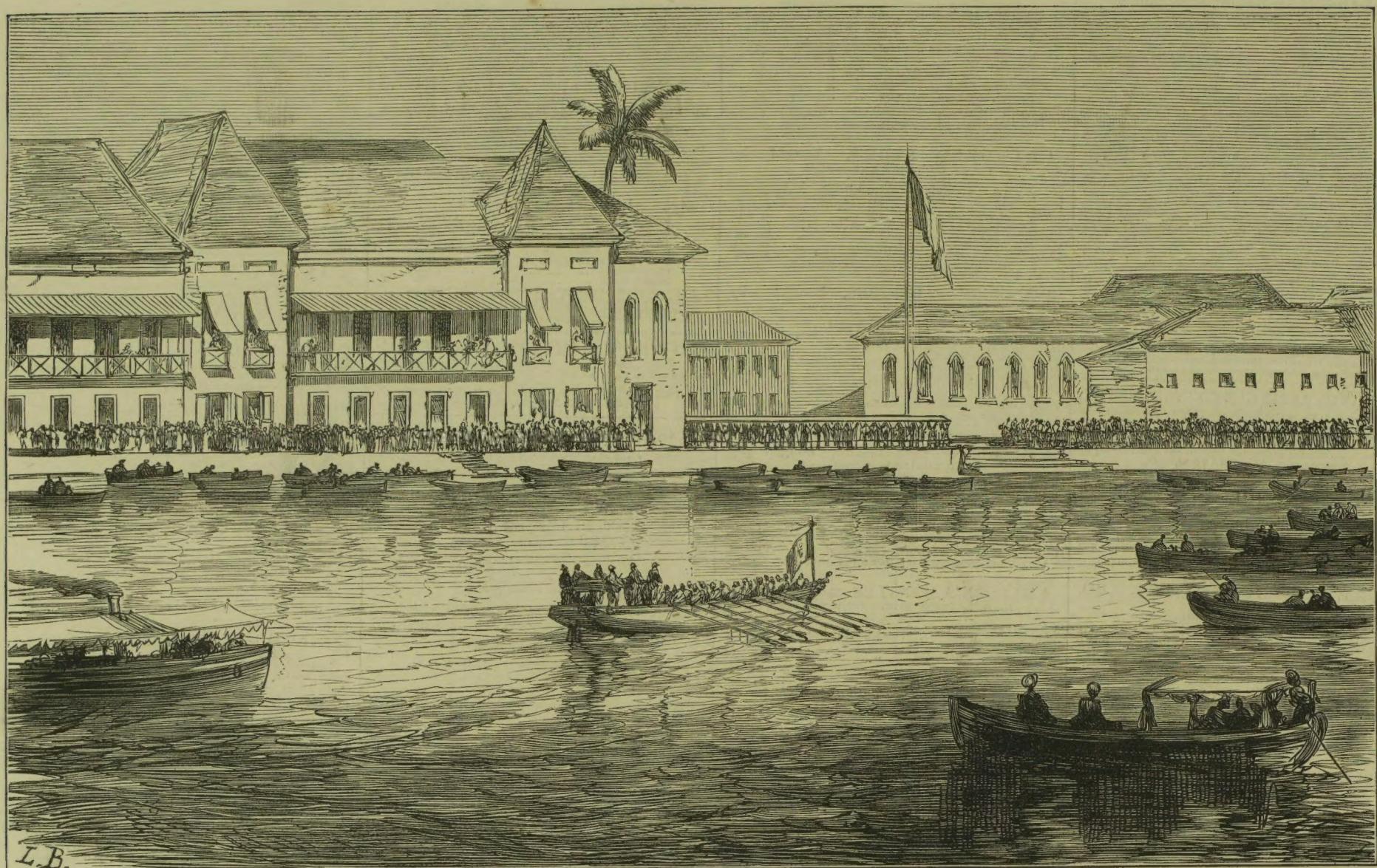
Fresh regulations have been issued by the postal authorities, the effect of which will be to cause a considerable saving of time and labour in the transmission of telegraphic messages.

Among the passengers on board the Royal Mail steam-ship Monrovia, from the West Coast of Africa, which arrived at Liverpool last week, were the members of the German exploring expedition.

The South-Eastern Railway Company announce that return tickets on their lines will be available for four days for distances between ten and fifty miles; for seven days for distances between fifty and a hundred miles; and for a month for distances exceeding a hundred miles.

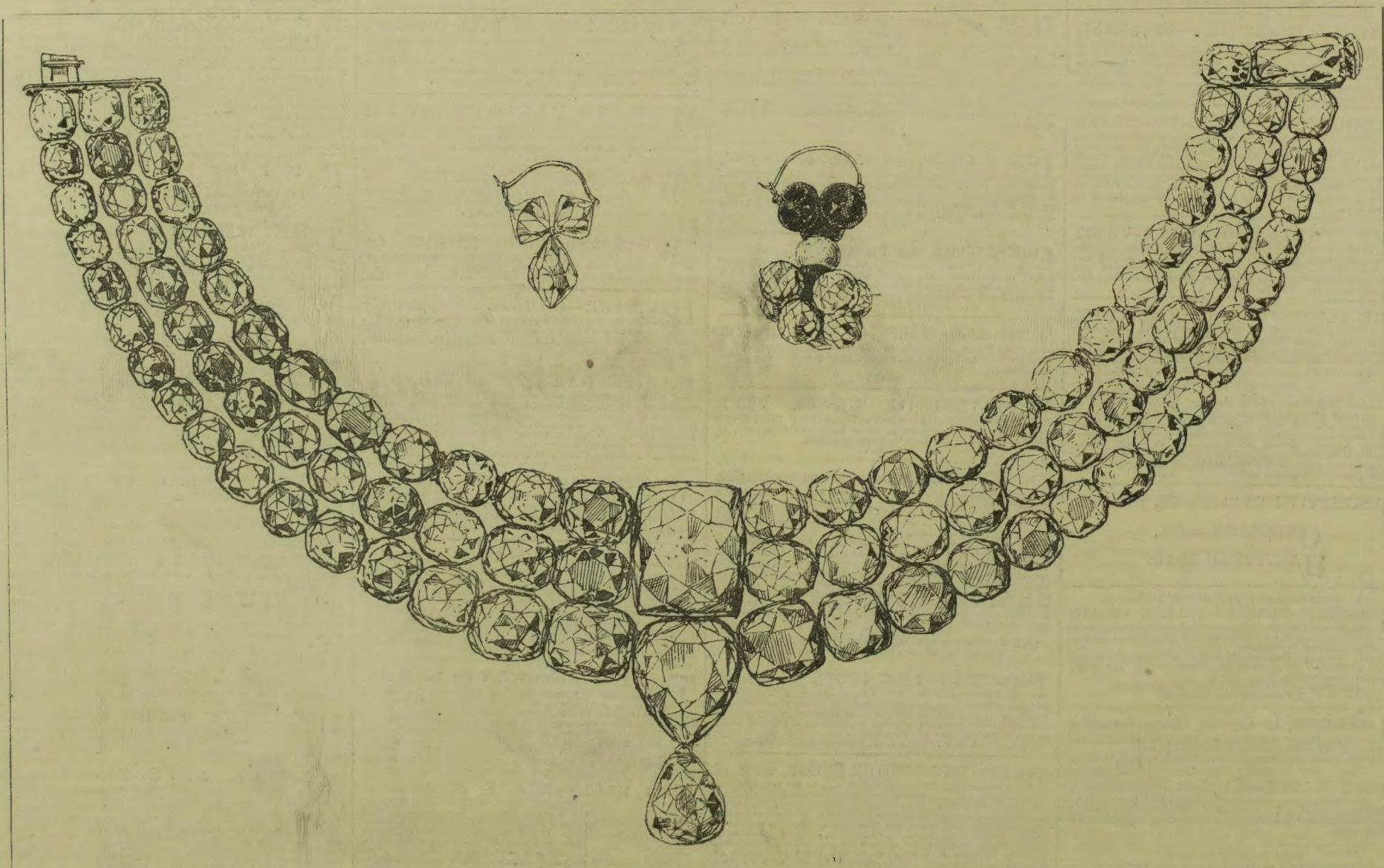
Mr. Henry Willett, the hon. secretary, has issued his fourteenth quarterly report relative to the Sub-Wealden exploration. It is of more than ordinary interest. He states that the contractors, the Diamond Boring Company, are laudably endeavouring, at their own cost, to enlarge the bore-hole, so as to enable them to reach 2000 ft., and to produce cores undeniably satisfactory to the promoters. Mr. T. Warner, of Brighton, has written to say that should there be others who wish to carry on the exploration to a greater depth than 2000 ft., he should be happy to contribute, in addition to his promised £300 for 2000 ft., 10s. a foot for any additional depth between 2000 ft. and 2100 ft.; 15s. a foot for every additional depth between 2100 ft. and 2300 ft.; and £1 a foot for every additional depth between 2300 ft. and 2500 ft.; equal to £400 in all for the next 500 ft. after 2000 ft., the condition being that the cores brought up be sufficiently large to enable the geologists to satisfactorily identify the strata. The contents of Mr. Warner's letter have been communicated to the contractors, who state that it will be quite easy for them to go on with the boring if the money can be found to enable them to overbore from the surface; and Mr. Willett says that the ultimate decision will rest with the central committee in London, who will, of course, be guided mainly by the question of finance. He adds that some strange and inexplicable phenomena incident to the experiments for ascertaining the underground temperature should be inquired into. The exploration fund account shows that the balance in hand has been reduced to £150.

Lord Lyttelton and Mr. C. Harrison, M.P., attended a meeting at Bewdley, last week, to further the erection of a new institute on a valuable site presented by Mr. Edward Pease. Mr. Harrison said there was nothing on which the country was so set as a complete and thorough education of the people; and the more primary education progressed the more needful was it for secondary education to follow and supplement it. Some people were bold enough to declare education an unmitigated evil, but such did not deserve an answer



THE PRINCE OF WALES LANDING AT THE TOWN OF NEW GOA.

FROM A SKETCH BY AN OFFICER OF THE SERAPIS.



NECKLACE OF THE YOUNG GUICOWAR OF BARQDA, VALUED AT FORTY LACS OF RUPEES.